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 HISTORICAL SOUVENIR OF WOLCOTT, N. Y.  
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 SYRACUSE, N. Y.



Those whose Photos were Obtainable.

See Sketch P. 82.

"CAPTAINS" OF WOLCOTT IN ITS EARLY DAYS.

JEDEDIAH WILDER,  
 Property Owner and Investor.

DR. DAVID ARNE,  
 First Postmaster and First Physician.

ISAAC LEAVENWORTH,  
 Large Capitalist and Manufacturer.

JONATHAN MELVIN,  
 First Settler, Land and Mill Owner.

DR. E. H. DRAPER,  
 Liberal Donor to Churches.

CHAUNCEY P. SMITH,  
 Leading Merchant Many Years.

REV. THOMAS WRIGHT,  
 Distinguished Presbyterian Clergyman.

DR. JAMES M. WILSON,  
 Prominent Physician and Statesman.

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"GRIP'S" *original*  
Historical Souvenir of Wolcott, N.Y.

17000

Wolcott, N.Y.  
1905

Historical Souvenir Series No. 20

# WOLCOTT, N. Y. AND VICINITY

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Smith, Photo.

MAIN STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM THE FOUR CORNERS.

## DESCRIPTION OF WOLCOTT.

WOLCOTT, a village of 1,500 population occupies an eligible location in the centre of a large agricultural section, and is the principal village in the northern part of Wayne county. It has a favorable site on the Lake Ontario branch of the R., W. & O. railroad which is operated by the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company; and is the prospective point for the intersection of trolley lines projected north from Syracuse on the east and Rochester on the west.

Wolcott is the business and shipping centre for fifteen to twenty miles radius of the best fruit and farming section of the state.

The industry is largely the handling of fruit—apples and berries; canning, evaporating or receiving for shipment crops, with an annual valuation of \$500,000.

Another considerable industry is that of pickles

and kraut, the production of which aggregates in value from \$12,000 to \$15,000.

Two hundred and fifty acres are devoted to raising vegetables for this factory, and the yield usually pays the farmers about \$50 an acre.

One of the largest creameries in Wayne county is located at Wolcott in which considerable local capital is invested. It pays to the dairymen every month \$5,000 which is largely distributed in the village in trade. At Sodus is located a branch of this creamery. About 1,500 pounds of butter is made daily at the Wolcott creamery.

Grains, potatoes and onions are also raised in abundance in this section and find a market and shipping point at Wolcott. These productions and others common to a profitable farming section aggregate in valuation annually about \$200,000.

There are two foundries, a flouring mill, a cider mill and wood working shops in the village; four department stores, four drug stores, four groceries, two hardware and plumbing firms, a fur-



niture store, two undertakers, three clothiers, three milliners, three dressmaking and ladies' tailors, a wagon, carriage and musical instrument business, two harness shops, two meat markets, four blacksmith shops, two photograph galleries, two barber shops, two lumber yards, two coal yards, four hotels. There are five physicians, six attorneys, two dentists, three opticians and two veterinaries

The Twitchell-Champlin Company operate a cannery of fruits and vegetables, employing from thirty to sixty hands.

The J. Weller Company employ from ten to a dozen in the manufacture of pickles and kraut.

G. H. Northup handles dried fruits.

Olivet Bros. & Cunningham, largely green fruits, also manufacture barrels.

Wm. Davis, green and dried fruits.

The Mercur Packing Company, dried fruits.

J. S. Terrill, green and dried fruits.

dist, Baptist, Episcopal and Protestant Methodist. Four of the structures are of stone or brick. The church attendance averages 800. The valuation of the church property in the village, including endowments, will aggregate \$150,000. Each society owns its parsonage. The Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian societies own considerable real estate in the village outside of the churches and parsonages.

A great deal of building is going on this year, principally residences for which a new and attractive street has been opened, called Leavenworth avenue.

Society in Wolcott comprehends literary societies, clubs, insurance and social fraternities. The population of Wolcott is largely of that desirable class of people who are in good circumstances and in business of some sort. There is a pride of home and village among the people which insures the prosperity and growth of the



Smith, Photo.

MAIN ST., NORTH SIDE, LOOKING EAST FROM FOUR CORNERS.

Wolcott, an up-to-date business place, is built up largely of brick business blocks and a fine class of residences. The streets are largely macadamized and heavily shaded by elms and maples. The sidewalks are chiefly stone and cement. Most of the residences are surrounded by well kept lawns and considerable taste is displayed in the adornment of grounds with shrubs and flowers. The streets are lighted with arc lights and incandescent lights are largely used in homes and business places.

There are two well conducted weekly newspapers and two substantial banks.

The school is a comparatively new building—a large and handsome structure, built at a cost of \$25,000 or \$30,000.

The fire department consists of three volunteer companies, having an engine, hooks and ladders and ample supply of hose.

There are five churches, Presbyterian, Metho-

community. Many former Wolcott people who have become prominent in much larger communities still entertain a fondness for their native place and in the summer a considerable tide of "old home comers" and their friends enliven the society of this beautiful and progressive village.

Wolcott by its location invites home seekers and those looking for favorable business sites. That it keeps up with modern progress is shown by its excellent lighting system, telephone service and the unusually large number of automobiles owned in the place.

Many of its citizens have summer cottages at Port Bay and Lake Bluff on Great Sodus Bay, arms of Lake Ontario, only a few miles north of the village, where they live during the hot months going and coming daily with their automobiles, or driving back and forth fine teams, Wolcott people generally taking pride in nice horses.

**Wolcott; Earliest Business Men and Earliest Industries; Large Enterprises Gave Birth to the Village:—**

The first settler and land owner in the village of Wolcott was Jonathan Melvin, Sr., who bought 500 acres largely included in the present corporate limits of the village. Melvin, who was a revolutionary soldier, came here from Melvin Hill in the town of Phelps, Ontario county, in 1806 and the following year he put up a small building for shelter. Melvin, for those days was a plunger, and to carry out his projects he borrowed money from the banks in Utica and Geneva.

In 1809 he built a grist mill and saw mill on the Rumsay site both of which he sold to Obadiah Adams in 1812. Melvin donated a site for a schoolhouse and for a village park. He sold a

frame building on the site of the Wolcott House where he opened a tavern. In 1812 he bought the old schoolhouse which stood across the street and moving it over on to his lot connected it with his tavern. In this addition he opened a store, being the first merchant as well as landlord in the village. Trade for a few years prior to that time went to Sodus Point where it was expected that owing to the excellent harbor the chief town in this section would spring up.

**WOLCOTT WAS PUNCHEONVILLE.**

The daring and energy of Melvin, Adams and the Church's, who were then settled at Wolcott, opened up a trading point at this place which soon out-rivalled Sodus Point. Saw mills, grist mills, carding mills and asheries erected here very quickly made this the centre of trade. Mr. Adams erected a kiln for drying corn and grinding meal which he shipped in large quantities to Canada. His large hogsheads filled with meal



Smith, Photo.

MAIN ST., SOUTH SIDE, LOOKING EAST FROM FOUR CORNERS.

plot of land to Samuel Mellin who put up a fulling, cloth dressing and carding mill and he also sold three acres known as the swamp lot to Dr. David Arne, which includes what was the site of the old Presbyterian church. Melvin built an ashery on the north side of Main street and a distillery on the west side of the road leading to the Beach grist mill. Melvin painted the old farm house black, which afterwards gave it the name of the "Black House farm." Melvin died at Phelps in 1845.

**ADAMS' FIRST TAVERN AND STORE.**

Obadiah Adams, brother-in law to Osgood Church, who first surveyed pretty much all of the lands in this section, was one of the largest operators in lands and promoters of enterprises in this locality. He was the colonel in the state militia from 1812 to 1824. Coming to Wolcott in 1810 he first bought 40 acres of land from Jonathan Melvin, which lay on the east side of New Hartford street. He built a story-and-a-half

for shipment gave the place the sobriquet, "Puncheonville." He also erected a blast furnace east of the Beach Mill, but never put it into operation as he failed at about that time, 1824, and moved to Rochester, where he opened an hotel and a couple of years later died.

**SLOOP LANDING ON THE LAKE.**

When the stage road between Rochester and Oswego was opened his hotel at Wolcott became a much famed house for the accommodation of travelers passing through by stage. To accommodate his shipments of pearl ashes and corn meal, principally, as well as other produce which he bought in large quantities, he bought land on the east shore of Sodus Bay and erected a wharf where he shipped produce and received merchandise. It lay between Glasgow and Bonnicastle and was known as "Sloop Landing." There he laid out a village, put up a warehouse and other good buildings and launched a sailing vessel. As a speculation the enterprise on the lake proved



unsuccessful, but for a few years more produce was shipped from "Sloop Landing" on the lake than at any other point on the south shore between Oswego and Niagara.

LEAVENWORTH INSTITUTE.

Isaac Leavenworth was another of Wolcott's prominent citizens but at a considerable later period. He founded the Leavenworth Institute which along in the early sixties ranked high as an educational institution, and did a great deal in other ways to promote the interests of the village. In 1849 he was elected to the Legislature.

Samuel Mellen about 1812 erected fulling, cloth dressing and carding mills on land which he bought from Jonathan Melvin, sr. These he sold to Jedediah Wilder, a veteran of the war of 1812, in 1816, who sold out to Roswell Benedict in 1826.

bench, a court of pleas judge. He was the first postmaster in the village.

Elias Y. Munson, who came to Wolcott with Obadiah Adams and for a few years was a clerk for Reuben Swift & Co., became a commanding figure in business at Wolcott a few years later. In 1829 he purchased the old Adams tavern which in the winter of 1836-'7 burned. Munson rebuilt it of brick, the first brick structure in the village, and conducted it as the Northern Exchange Hotel. He was a mason by trade and helped lay the walls of Auburn State Prison. He died June 23, 1861.

Rev. Amos P. Draper, a carpenter by trade, came to Wolcott as an ordained preacher in the Baptist church.

DISTILLERY AND TANNERIES.

Jacob Butterfield, a tanner and shoemaker, about 1811, purchased of Osgood Church three



Loaned by C. W. Smith.

WOLCOTT IN 1855.

Showing South Side Main Street—Wolcott Hotel; Gilbert Building; Arcade; Presbyterian Church; Session Room. Arcade Building was Burned Nov. 11, 1879.

PLANK'S MILLS SWEEPED AWAY.

Elisha Plank in 1813 bought 467 acres north of the village and erected a saw and grist mill on Mill creek, which was carried away by a freshet Nov. 1, 1814. He and his son were both carried down in the current in trying to save some of the property. The father was rescued but the son was drowned. The next spring when Plank erected a second grist mill his house was burned. He died Sept. 25, 1852.

BLACK HOUSE FARM.

Dr. David Arne was one of the most prominent men of Wolcott in its earliest period. He purchased of the Geneva bank the "Black House Place," the old Jonathan Melvin home which the bank had to take when Melvin failed. For some years he was justice of the peace in the village. He also went to the assembly and was on the

acres on which he built a tannery and carried on business for many years.

Wm. M. Nurss and Merritt Candy came in 1823 and erected a distillery and ashery on the east side of the creek. They purchased Elisha Plank's grist mill and also established a store. Mr. Candy died in 1828 and Mr. Nurss closed out their business, being succeeded by Alanson Melvin, whom his father, Jonathan sr., had left here to wind up his affairs.

Stephen P. and Chester A. Keyes bought of E. Y. Munson all of the tract across Main street from the Wilder lot to the gulf and moved the old barn and sheds over to the tavern stand. The Messrs. Keyes occupied the old Munson store.

Nathan Pierce, son-in-law of Levy Smith, built an hotel, which was later known as the White hotel, and kept it several years.

Dr. Tripp purchased from the Geneva bank the Melvin mill property and repaired and conducted it for some time.

The present Wolcott house, standing on the site of Adams' tavern, which, as has been stated, was burned and was rebuilt by E. Y. Munson as the Northern Exchange, was enlarged by Julius Whiting in 1880. He was succeeded, Feb. 1, 1887, by S. A. Williams.

James V. D. Westfall was the first to open a banking business in a small way.

Roe, Ellis and Pomeroy in 1875 started a private bank. In the spring of 1884 Mr. Pomeroy sold his interest to Messrs. Roe and Ellis.

**Towns of Wayne County; when erected:—**

Arcadia, taken from Lyons, Feb. 15, 1825.

Butler, from Wolcott, Feb. 26, 1826.

Galen, originally township 27, Military tract, receiving its name from having been appropriated by the Medical department of the army, from Junius, Feb. 14, 1812.

Huron, from Wolcott as Port Bay, Feb. 25, 1826; its present name was fixed March 17, 1834.

Lyons, from Sodus, March 1, 1811; named from

from Charles Williamson, the American agent for the Pultney estates.

Wolcott, from Junius, March 24, 1807; named from Gov. Oliver Wolcott of Connecticut.

**Military Tract.**—The legislature by the act of July 25, 1782, created the Old Military Tract as it was called. It contained 1,800,000 acres and included the present counties of Onondaga, Cortland, Cayuga, Tompkins and Seneca (except a strip across the southern end of Cortland county, west from the Tioughnioga river, about a mile and a half wide). and all of Wayne county east of Great Sodus Bay and Oswego county west of the Oswego river.

In this tract there were 28 townships, called "Military towns" to distinguish them from the towns afterwards created in erecting the counties enclosing them.

In 1786 the legislature created a military tract, 768,000 acres in the counties of Clinton, Franklin



Loaned by Mrs. A. B. Thacker.

WOLCOTT IN 1865.

Showing Wolcott House after Julius Whiting had Constructed Balconies; A Second Small Building had then been Erected next to the Arcade.

All of the Buildings from Wolcott House to Arcade (8) were Burned July 20, 1875.

The Methodist Church Steeple Shows in the Left of the Background.

supposed topographical resemblance to Lyons, France.

Macedon, from Palmyra, Jan. 29, 1823.

Marion, from Williamson as Winchester, April 18, 1825. Its name was changed April 15, 1826.

Ontario, from Williamson as Freetown, March 27, 1807. Its name was changed Feb. 12, 1808.

Palmyra, the original town, was formed in Jan., 1789.

Rose, from Wolcott, Feb. 5, 1826; named from Robert S. Rose of Geneva.

Savannah, from Galen, Nov. 24, 1824; named from the savannahs in the south part of the town.

Sodus, the original town, was formed Jan., 1789; called by the Indians Assorodus, "silvery water."

Walworth, from Ontario, April 20, 1829; named from Chancellor Walworth.

Williamson, from Sodus, Feb. 20, 1802; named

and Essex which was laid out in twelve towns, bringing the total number up to 60. Each was laid out as nearly square as practical, averaging about  $9\frac{2}{3}$  miles square and containing each 100 lots of 600 acres to the lot or a total of 60,000 acres.

The towns in the first military tract, comprising Galen were numbered and given classical names all of which have been retained (as far as the supply would go) in the re-constituted towns. Except where they coincided with county lines, none of the original boundaries were preserved, each "military" town supplying territory for two or three re-organized towns. The only "military" town overlapping a county line is that of Sterling which contributed territory for both Wayne and Cayuga counties. The numbering of the towns began with Lysander (in Onondaga county) near the northeast corner of that tract (the second "military" town south of Lake On-



tario) and was carried south going from east to west.

The towns, placed in the order in which they were numbered, together with the counties which have since absorbed them, are as follows: No. 1, Lysander, Onondaga; 2, Hannibal, Oswego; 3, Cato, Cayuga; 4, Brutus, Cayuga; 5, Camillus, Onondaga; 6, Cicero, Onondaga; 7, Manlius, Onondaga; 8, Aurelius, Cayuga; 9, Marcellus, Onondaga; 10, Pompey, Onondaga; 11, Romulus, Seneca; 12, Scipio, Cayuga; 13, Sempronious, Cayuga; 14, Tull, Onondaga; 15, Fabius, Onondaga; 16, Ovid, Seneca; 17, Milton, Cayuga; 18, Locke, Cayuga; 19, Homer, Cortland; 20, Solon, Cortland; 21, Hector, Schuyler; 22, Ulysses, Tompkins; 23, Dryden, Tompkins; 24, Virgil, Cortland; 25, Cincinnatus, Cortland; 26, Junius, Seneca; 27, Galen, Wayne; 28, Sterling, Wayne and Cayuga.

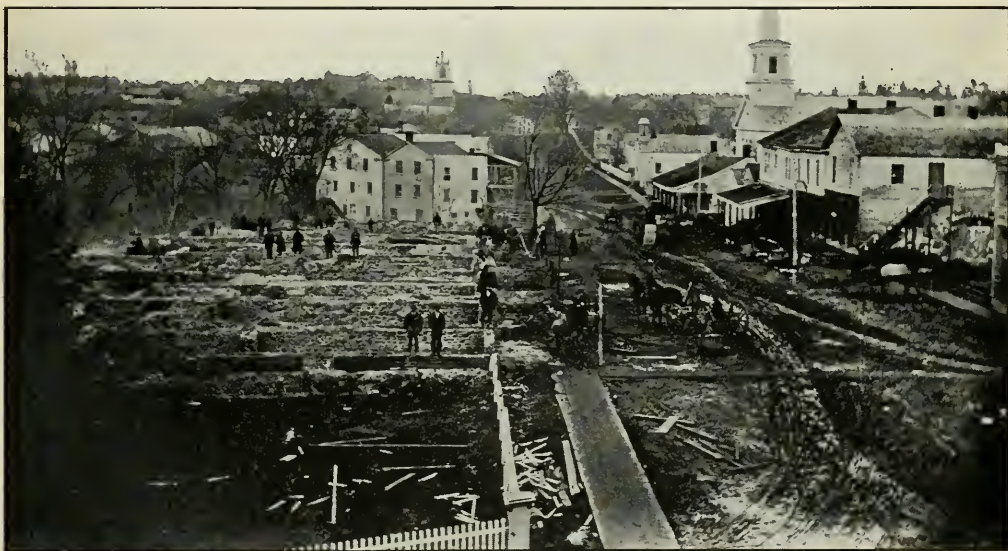
The Federal government having offered lands in the west to the soldiers of the revolution, the state laid out the military tracts to keep as many

The person appointed by the commissioners first drew the ballot containing the number of the lot; in which manner each claimant's allotment was determined.

The earliest settlement of the Military Tract was on the east shore of Cayuga lake, and so far as records go the settlers were the family of Roswell Franklin near Aurora, Cayuga county, who came up from WYsax, Penn., by boat, following the Susquehanna and Tioga rivers to Newtown (Elmira) thence crossing to the head of Seneca lake; thence by boat through that lake and Seneca river to Cayuga lake.

**Landmarks;** Wolcott from 1850 to the Fire of 1884: [See engravings pages 5-8].—

Wolcott prior in 1855 is shown on page 5. The Wolcott Hotel was then occupied by E. Y. Munson, who constructed balconies on the old building. Julius Whiting afterwards built the new hotel.



Loaned by C. W. Smith.

WOLCOTT; FIRE OF 1871.

here as possible, offering a bonus of 100 acres to privates who would relinquish their western claims and accept this offer of 600 acres of land in this state before July 1, 1790. The state reserved in each town two lots for schools, two for churches and two to be distributed among commissioned officers. The allotment of lands was to be made by drawing.

In default of a settlement on each 600 acres within seven years the land was to revert to the state. Fifty acres of each lot called the "survey fifty" was subject to the charge of forty-eight shillings (\$6.00) to pay for surveying, and if that were not paid in two years the "survey fifty" was to be sold. Compliance with these two main conditions gave the patentee full title to the whole 600 acres.

The distribution of lots occurred July 3, 1790, under the direction of the governor, lieutenant-governor and four state officers. The names of the claimants of the land were placed on ballots in one box and numbers corresponding to the allotments were placed on ballots in another box.

The first white building, the Gilbert block, was occupied by D. C. Whitford in 1872. B. A. Merrill, boots and shoes, was then in the second story and Billy Culliford lodged in the basement, where for some years prior he ran a saloon. The building was erected by two brothers,—hatters. George H. Arnes had a justice's office on the second floor for 45 years.

In the building beyond were located Hovey & Burnet, hats, (the site of Olmsted's drug store); Smedley & Roberts, groceries (the site of the Bank); Wellington Olmsted, restaurant.

The Arcade was built by Isaac Leavenworth. Curry, harnessmaker, occupied the west end up stairs. The oval patch over the walk is his sign. Hyde & Davis, grocers, were under his shop. Their sign over the end windows can be read through a strong glass. William Wadsworth previously had a store there. In the east end of the Arcade Mrs. Bissell had a millinery store, over which was A. A. Stinard's shoe shop. In the middle store of the Arcade was Thomas' printing office. When the building was first

erected it was wholly occupied on the ground floor by Schæffers' general store.

Henry Sheldon and Dexter Taylor were also in business in those old buildings.

In the engraving on page 8 are shown the new brick structures which stood in 1877. That with the bay window was put up by D. G. Whitford in 1876. Seamans, some years after, performing on the slack wire lost his life by the falling of one end of the wire, the rebound throwing him off. The first building is now the site of Murphey's store. Beach's business was next beyond. Then came Whitford & Campbell. Paige built the next building; U. G. Brewster erected and occupied the next, Jefferson Abbott the next to that; and Albert Wells the building next to the Arcade.

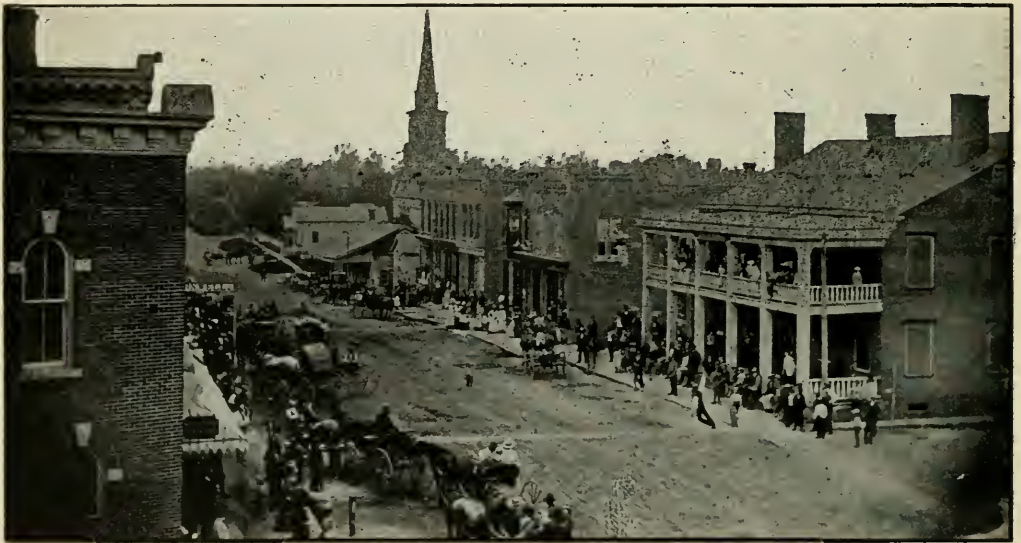
The middle building beyond the ruins (see page 8) was Stephen Bullock's wagon shop and in the next to the left Sam and William Rogers had a blacksmith shop. The old Methodist church is

the Delano hotel. From an account of the fire in the "Lake Shore News" the following facts are taken:—A telegram to Oswego brought steamer No 2 with fifteen firemen who arrived at 7 A. M.

H. A. Delano and family, H. C. Creque and family, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Wheelock and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Hamilton got out safely, only the latter saving a few valuables.

Eight blocks, all brick, were burned, including the Wells and the Sax blocks on the south side of Main street. Twenty-three business firms were burned out and fourteen families rendered homeless.

The following were losers by the fire:—Henry Michael, building; Jerry Seibring, building, etc.; H. A. Delano, Empire House; R. A. Wheelock, building; R. Beach, flour and feed; Warren & Tuttle, hardware; Martin Spahr, stock and household; Casper Spahr, building; C. H. Finch, clothier and household; C. Post, stock and household; L. I. Kenyon, building; C. H. Allen, build-



Loaned by C. W. Smith.

WOLCOTT IN 1877.

Showing James Seaman Performing on the Slack Wire at end of Hotel Balcony; Brick Structures had then Taken Place of Former Buildings to Arcade.

plainly seen beyond (now the site of D. C. Whitford's residence). Back of the church was a cemetery. No trace of it remains.

Across Mill street on the corner was W. W. Paddock, hardware. East of him was S. H. Foster's drug store and Amos Nash's egg vats. Phillips' cabinet shop was on the west side of Mill street, and the old foundry stood across the street.

In the brown house, corner of Main and Jefferson streets (now Conway's residence) George H. Reed made furniture.

**Empire Block.**—[See engraving, page 9].—This building was burned early Sunday morning, Feb. 10, 1884. The alarm was given by ringing the church bells. The Empire Block stood on the north side of Main street, extending west from Mill street. It was built by Wells & Wheelock. In the corner was the entrance to

ing, goods and household. W. W. Paddock, stoves; H. C. Creque, household; Mrs. Ira Scott, household; G. A. R., A. O. U. W. and F. & A. M., furniture; J. N. Robertson, M. D., office effects; G. H. Northup, building; J. G. Sax, building; H. C. Moses, stock; E. J. Peck, drugs; L. Burgdorf, harness; D. Winchell, butcher; J. Cline, stock; A. Wells, market and household; C. B. Moon, boots and shoes; James A. Merrill, office and household; C. F. Valkenburg, stock; F. Abbott, building, stock and household; D. Conger, stock; Charles Purdy; Peter Cole, household and stock; C. Weldon, household; Wm. H. Thomas, "Lake Shore News;" E. W. Newberry, stock and furniture; Mr. Bassett, carriage painting; Whitford & Campbell, stock; U. G. Brewster, stock; Thacker Bros., stock; H. A. Grans, stock.

The total of losses was about \$145,000.

The heaviest losses were those of R. A. Wheelock \$35,000, H. A. Delano \$14,000, G. H.



Northup \$7,500, L. I. Kenyon \$9,000, Casper Spahr \$6,500, Jerry Seibring \$6,000, C. H. Finch \$5,000 and W. H. Thomas \$4,500.

**Wolcott; Town History.**—The old town of Wolcott, comprising the present towns of Butler, Wolcott, Huron and Rose, was set off from the north end of Junius, Seneca county, March 24, 1807, but a legal organization was not effected until April, 1810. On June 11, 1814, a special town meeting was convened to consider the question of uniting with the towns of Galen, which then included Savannah, Sterling, Cato, Hannibal and Lysander, in a new county but it was defeated.

The division of the town was next agitated, about 1823. It was proposed to make four towns out of the original town of Wolcott. A convention was called by the moving spirits and the matter was discussed freely. The affirmative

This was four years after the location in the town of the first white settler.

**MELVINS—CHURCH'S—WHEELERS.**

The settlement of the town of Wolcott was begun by Jonathan Melvin, Sr., who located on lot No. 50 in 1806. Jonathan Melvin, Jr., his son, was the first settler in the town of Clyde. Then came Adonijah Church from Massachusetts in 1806; Osgood Church and family and Hiram Church and Dr. Zenas Hyde and Zenas Wheeler in 1807; Lambert Woodruff who bought land in the vicinity of Red Creek in 1807 and moved on to it in 1810; Eliab Abbott in 1808; Obadiah Adams in 1810; Noadiah Child and Giles and Thaddeus Fitch in 1811; Jacob Snyder with a family of ten children in 1813.

Giles Fitch came here in his business as a mail contractor, the first who carried mail between Auburn and Wolcott, riding the distance on horseback.



Loaned by C. W. Smith.

EMPIRE BLOCK—BURNED FEB. 10, 1884.

was settled without much trouble, but there was some trouble in the adjustment of the boundary lines. Huron and Butler both wanted to include Wolcott village, and Red Creek which then had some aspirations desired to arrange matters so that it would be the chief village in the town of Wolcott.

Nearly three years were occupied in reaching an understanding and in 1826 the division of the old town of Wolcott was effected.

Up to the time Wayne county was erected Wolcott was in the county of Seneca, as was also Galen lying south of it. It comprised a township of about twelve miles square bounded on the north by Lake Ontario, on the east by Cayuga county, on the south by the town of Galen and on the west by Ontario county, which at that time comprised all of the western part of the present county of Wayne.

In 1810 the population of Wolcott was 480 including only fifty-nine males who had the property qualifications for voting for State Senators.

Osgood Church, a surveyor, came here as a sub-agent for the lands of Charles Williamson. On October 27, 1809, he obtained the deed for 855 acres at \$2.40 an acre. His brother Adonijah served as commissioner of schools and supervisor.

**WOODRUFFS—SNYDER—RUNYON.**

Lambert Woodruff bought 500 acres adjoining the Balack farm where he lived for a time.

Thomas Snyder, the son of Jacob Snyder, erected the first saw and grist mill at Red Creek.

Jonathan Runyon, a revolutionary soldier, took up 600 acres of land in the town of Wolcott.

Robert McArthur, John Ford and Daniel Patterson were soldiers of the war of 1812 who settled in the town of Wolcott.

Wm. Olney Wood, one of the early settlers, was a tanner at Red Creek. He built Wood's hotel there and afterwards opened a private bank. He also served as supervisor of the town.

Capt. Horace L. Dudley, who came here in 1824, was captain in the state militia in 1829.



Smith, Photo. DRAPER ST., WEST SIDE, LOOKING NORTH.

Obadiah Adams, a brother-in-law of Osgood Church, was a colonel of the state militia and a prominent business man in the village of Wolcott.

The personal history and characteristics of many of these mentioned in this sketch are detailed elsewhere in this work and will be found interesting reading. Very complete reference is made to several under the caption "Wolcott; Earliest Business Men and Earliest Industries."

Zenas Wheeler, an elder in the Presbyterian church, was a member of the General Assembly in 1837.

Abijah Moore came to the village in 1809.

Stephen and Sylvanus Joiner on March 1, 1811, bought 1,050 acres for \$4 an acre of Fellows and McNab on lot 344.

Hiram Church, a son of Osgood Church, was two years old when his father came here, in 1808, and lived to see a beautiful village spring up into full and thrifty growth before he died, in 1889. Considerable material has been taken for this work from historical articles which he wrote and which were published in the "Lake Shore News."

John C. Wadsworth, who came from Vermont, and settled in Butler with his father in 1819, located in Wolcott in 1832. He was sheriff of the county four years.

Jesse Mathews was another who lived in the town before 1820. He was supervisor in 1817.

Lott Stewart, who kept tavern at Stewart's Corners, was widely known throughout the county.

#### SEVERAL PROMINENT FAMILIES.

Prominent among the early settlers of the town were the following:—

James Alexander, Ephraim P. Bigelow, Benja-

min Brown, Luke Brinkerhoff, George W. Brinkerhoff, Deacon Cyrus Brockway and Peres Bardwell. Seth Crow, Alpheus Collins and Thaddeus Collins. Daniel Dutcher, Rev. Amos P. Draper, Anson Drury, George Doolittle and John Dow.

Joseph Foster, Stephen D. Fowler, M. P. Foster, M. P. Foote, Alanson Frost, Roswell Fox, Jacob Fraber and Milton Fuller. John Grandy, Moses Gillett and Ashley Goodrich.

Linus Hubbard, James M. Hall, Rev. Ira H. Hogan, Thomas Hall, Hamilton Hibbard, Aaron Hopkin, Alpheus Harmon, John Hyde, Stephen Her-

rick, Thomas Hancock, Elijah Hancock, Consider Herrick and William Hallett. Capt. Thomas W. Johnson. Ezra Knapp.

Jarvis Mudge, Gardner Mudge, John Mack, Elias Y. Munson, Silas Munsell, Abijah Moore, Caleb Mills and Pender Marsh. Wm. P. Newell. Samuel J. Otis, Isaac Otis and Roger Olmsted. Wm. W. Phillips and Prentice Palmer. Isaac Rice.

Levi Smith, Wm. Sax, Charles Sweet, Noah Starr, Jacob Shook, Roger Sheldon, Wareham Sheldon and Jabez Stewart. John Turner and Eliakim Tupper.

George I. Van Fleet, Garret Van Fleet, Robert Van Tassell, Ransom Ward, Jedediah Wilson, Jesse W. Williams, Joseph Ward, Franklin Ward, John Woodruff, Charles Woodruff, Lyman Whitney, Jacob Ward, Nathaniel Williams, Glazier Wheeler, Eli Wheeler and R. W. Younglove.

**The First Tavern** in the village of Wolcott was opened and kept by Obadiah Adams.



Smith, Photo.

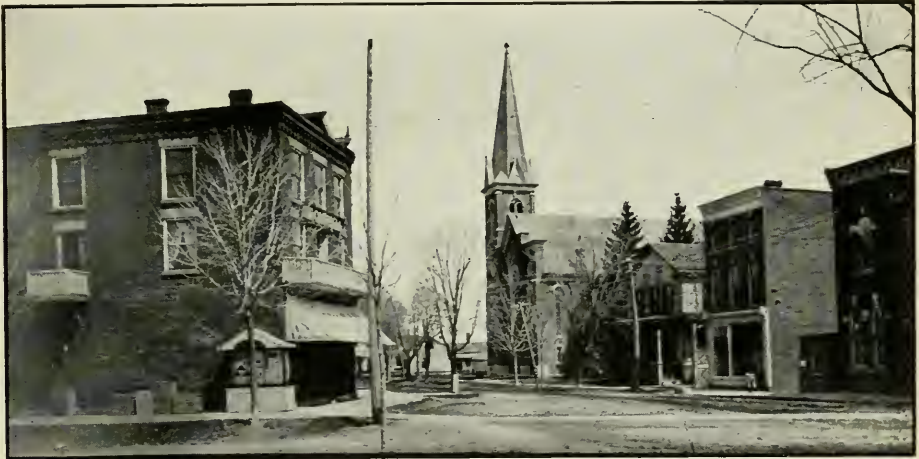
WEST MAIN ST., NORTH SIDE, LOOKING EAST.



**Wayne County;** The Earliest Movement for Its Erection:—What was known as the "Lyons Petition" was the earliest movement for the erection of Wayne county. It was dated Nov. 15, 1822, and was addressed to the Legislature, asking that the towns of Lyons, Sodus, Williamson, and parts of the towns of Phelps in Ontario county and Wolcott and Galen, then in Seneca county, should constitute the proposed new county of Wayne. The petition was presented to the Legislature Jan. 8, 1823, and reported by committee favorably February 3. The bill for the erection of the county was passed April 11, and included the towns named in the "Lyons Petition." The bill named as commissioners for determining the site of the county buildings Wm. D. Ford of Jefferson county, Samuel Strong of Tioga county and Oliver P. Ashley of Green county. Court was to be held until the county seat was fixed in the "Presbyterian meeting house in Lyons." That portion of Phelps included in the new county was finally annexed to the town of Lyons. Nathaniel Kellogg of Sodus, Wm. Patrick of Lyons and Simeon Griswold of

Great Britain. After the revolution this claim was adjusted between the states of Massachusetts and New York, and Phelps & Gorham received a good title. Through an agent in London Mr. Morris sold a large part of this tract to Sir Wm. Pultenay, John Hornby and Patrick Colquhoun to whom he transferred the title to about 1,200,000 acres for thirty-five thousand pounds sterling, about \$175,000. Subsequently, the three partners, London men, divided the tract, Sir Wm. Pultenay's share besides the lands comprised in the tract embracing portions of several counties, contained parts of the towns of Lyons, Galen and Wolcott in Wayne county amounting to about 80,000 acres. The title to the Pultenay estate was held in the name of Charles Williamson, who came from England as the accredited agent and in order to hold the title secured naturalization papers, the law of this country forbidding aliens to hold large tracts of land not actually settled by them.

The Pultenay title was contested for some years but was confirmed both by decrees of the courts and by legislative enactment. The head-



Smith, Photo.

LAKE AVE., LOOKING NORTH FROM MAIN ST.

Galen were named commissioners to build the court house and jail. The supervisors of the new county were directed to meet at the house of Henry L. Woolsey, Lyons, then a tavern in that village, on the first Tuesday in October to levy an assessment for collecting \$2,500 towards building a court house and jail, the same amount to be levied at their next annual meeting. The commissioners in June, 1823, decided upon the public square in Lyons as the site of the county buildings.

**The Pultenay Estate** was the largest landed possession in Wayne county where many of the farm titles come from its owner, who with two other capitalists purchased the lands from Robert Morris of Philadelphia. Mr. Morris bought from Phelps & Gorham 2,200,000 acres in western New York for which he paid thirty thousand pounds, New York currency, equal to about \$75,000. The Phelps and Gorham grant was originally made by the state of Massachusetts, which claimed title to pretty much all of western New York under grant from the crown of

quarters, or land office, was for years at Geneva, and there the purchasers of farms (the tenants as they really were) had to go to make their periodical payments. What is now Wayne county was then divided between Seneca and Ontario counties.

Mr. Williamson brought with him as agents or factors Charles Cameron, John Johnstone, James and Henry Tower, Andrew Smith and Hugh McCartney, men who undoubtedly have descendants still living in some parts of Wayne county, and whose names are conspicuous in the early history of the county.

Cameron was in fact placed in charge of the lands during the earliest period of the settlement, in the vicinity of Lyons and Clyde, where he acted as local agent. Some claim that he gave the name Clyde to the river after which that village is named. In 1803 or '4 Mr. Williamson returned to Scotland leaving Col. Benjamin Walker in charge of the estate. He was succeeded by John H. Woods of Geneva. Col. Robert Troup became their successor, as did also James Rees.



REV. CHARLES T. SHAW.

**First Presbyterian Church**—This society was organized July 13, 1813, by Rev. Charles Mosier, pastor of the congregation of Romulus and Rev. Henry Axtell, pastor of the congregation of Geneva. The complete list of members giving the places whence they came, all of whom brought letters from churches in those places, is as follows:

Erastus Wilder, Phelps, N. Y.; Robert M. Palmer, Brutus, N. Y.; Luther Wheeler, Akin, N. Y.; Jonathan Melvin, Phelps, N. Y.; Martha Fox, Nevington, Ct.; Lucy Wheeler, Akin, N. Y.; Damaris Wilson, East Windsor, Ct.; Ezra Knapp, New Marlborough, Mass.; Elihu Jones and Noah Seymour, New Hartford, Ct.; John Wade, Paris, N. Y.; Roswell Fox and Elisha and Ruth Plank, Sangerfield, N. Y.; Adelia Knapp, New Marlborough, Mass.; Miriam Seymour, New Hartford, Ct.; Joanna Bruce, Sangerfield, N. Y.; Elizabeth Olmsted, Margaret Upson and Elizabeth Sheldon, New Hartford, Ct. The three uniting on confession of faith which make the total number of members at the organization of

the church, were Josiah Upson, Amy Hancock and Eunice Wade. Two were united in Sept, 1813, Mrs. Lucy Church and Mrs. Hannah Doolittle.

At a meeting at the schoolhouse [on the site of the present Baptist church], near Obadiah Adams', Sept. 7, 1813, Lambert Woodruff, Josiah Upson, Jarvis Mudge, Noah Seymour, Jonathan Melvin and John Wade were elected trustees. Adonijah Church was elected clerk.

Rev. Daniel S. Butterick, the first pastor, was engaged Jan. 18, 1814, for four years at a salary of \$200. The agreement entered into by fifty-one persons to raise that amount annually provided that each should be taxed "according to the valuation of real and personal property" he possessed, "as taken and valued by the assessors of the town of Wolcott," after deducting what the clergyman had received in donations and subscriptions.

This organization continued until 1827, worshipping during that time alternately in the Adams' and the Cobble Hill schoolhouses, when the membership divided, the greater part of the number organizing a church in Huron and the others re-organizing the Wolcott church. Out of 44 actual members at this time from a record of 102 received from the beginning, the separation left the Wolcott church with 12 members, viz:—Elisha and Ruth Plank, Lambert and Mary Woodruff, Simon Toll and Zeruah Viele, Jerusha Salmon, Lucy Church, Elizabeth Olmsted, Vicky Henderson, Lavina Drury and Hannah Doolittle. Elisha Plank and Simon Toll Viele were chosen the first elders. The former died in October, 1852, and the latter about a year after the new church organization.



Smith, Photo.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.



From 1821 to 1824 the church was without a stated supply and it was not until November 29, 1826, when Rev. Alanson B. Chittenden was engaged, that it again procured a pastor.

In the summer of 1826 the first church edifice of the society was raised and enclosed—on West Main street, the present site of Dr. Watkins' residence. It was in 1832 that it was finished inside. The trustees authorized to act as the building committee when the work of construction was begun, were Alanson Melvin, John Woodruff, Abijah Moore, Andrew Chapin, Elisha Plank and Merritt Candee. The subscription committee, named January 26, 1826, were David Arne, Jr, William Wells, Merritt Candee, John Woodruff, Abijah Moore, Alanson Melvin and John R. Taintor. Thirty-three contributors subscribed a total of \$1,405 which was accepted in four payments made in lumber, grain and meat.

The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Joseph Merrill of Junius. During the service the congregation was seized with a panic by the falling of a seat in the gallery and the house was

this church building was erected; and he preached the last sermon in it, February 11, 1883.

The present edifice on West Main street, a very pretty structure, was dedicated, with the society free from debt, February 15, 1883, and cost complete \$16,814. The corner stone was laid by the Rev. William A. Rice, who was then pastor, July 6, 1882.

Rev. Charles T. Shaw, the present pastor, a native of England, received a unanimous call to the Williamson church while at the Auburn Theological Seminary. He resigned that pastorate to accept his present charge and since he has come here many have been added to the church and all departments have been strengthened and enlarged.

The Pastors:—

Rev. Daniel S. Butterick, January 1814 to January 1815; Rev. William Clark, 1815 (settled in Wolcott January 1816) to September 3, 1823; from that time reading of sermons and occasional supplies; Rev. Alanson B. Chittenden Novem-



MRS. G. H. NORTHUP'S S. S. CLASS, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Lower Row, (left to right): Liela Jourden, Marie Schattner, Ruth Northup, Margurete Wadsworth, Alice Perry. Upper Row—Bessie Parks, Reta Olmstead, Carrie Harder, Ida Medan, Netta Olmstead, Theda Dowd, Glenn Countryman.

stamped until empty. All returned to their seats as soon as the cause of their fright was made clear. This church was continued in use until the erection of the second edifice on the south side of East Main street, in 1852, where the structure still stands, now in use by Newberry, & Barton, merchants. The lecture or session room, a separate building east of it, is now occupied by the Wolcott Courier. It has been used for various purposes, including a blacksmith shop.

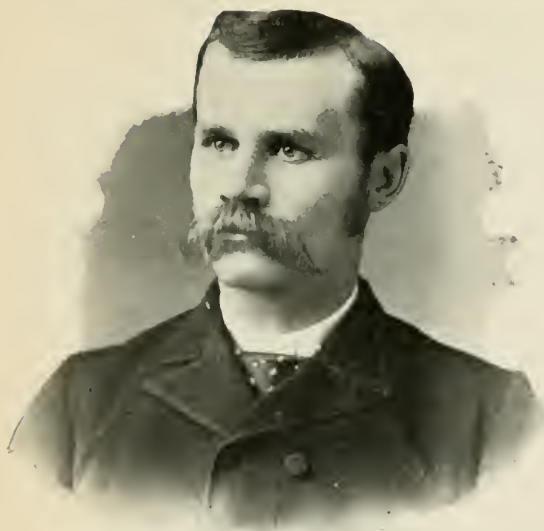
The lot was donated to the society by Isaac Leavenworth who also erected for the society the session room and the church sheds.

Isaac Leavenworth and Ann L., his wife, united with the church, by letter from the Binghamton Presbyterian church, January 1, 1842. Mr. Leavenworth gave the society the Arcade property and a site for a parsonage consisting of four acres of land. Mrs. Leavenworth at her death left the society \$1,400 for the erection of the parsonage.

During the pastorate of Rev. Thomas Wright

ber 29, 1826; Rev. Nathan Gillette, 1826; Revs. Jesse Townsend, Howell R. Powell, William Clark, Publius V. Bogue and Daniel Hopkins (supply) 1826-'35; Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, 1835-'9; Rev. Nathaniel Waldo (supply to fill vacancy caused by Mr. Merrill's death), 1839; Rev. Thomas Wright, 1839-'55; Rev. P. I. Burnham (stated supply), 1856-'9; Rev. Darwin Chichester, 1859-'62; Rev. A. Blakely (stated supply), six months in 1863; Rev. W. L. Page began as stated supply January 1, 1864, and continued (finally as pastor) his labors here eleven years and six months—to June 1876, Rev. William A. Rice, 1876-'84; Rev. L. M. Clarke, January 1, 1884, four years following; Rev. H. B. Stevenson, 1888—1900; Rev. Charles T. Shaw, installed fall of 1901—present pastor.

**The First Death** among the settlers in the town of Wolcott before it was erected was that of Sarah Mills, on Dec. 25, 1809. She was buried on the Viele farm.



REV. JOSEPH LINCOLN GILLARD.

**Methodist Episcopal Church.**—The earliest appearance of Methodism in Wolcott was on October 9, 1813, when a quarterly meeting was held in Daniel Roe's barn—the first in the Sodus Circuit, Genesee Conference. Gideon Draper was Presiding Elder and Zenos Jones circuit preacher. The collection amounted to \$10. Wolcott was next, in 1817, embraced in the Cato circuit. It was changed, in 1821, to Victory Circuit which in 1832 was divided, creating Rose circuit which included Wolcott. That year, the first regular preacher, Elijah Barnes, came to Wolcott, although the year previous Samuel Bibbins established an appointment in Wolcott.

"Father" Bibbins, as he was called, was an old man, and his circuit required six weeks to "make the rounds."

Elijah Barnes formed a class in Wolcott in 1832 which comprised Lanson Millington, leader, Lovina Millington, Jerusha Pierce, Mathew Pierce and Phoebe Southwick.

On February 23, 1836, pursuant to notice, at a meeting in the district school house in the village, largely attended, the Methodist church society was organized and named Second Zion Society of the M. E. Church of the Town of Wolcott. Roswell Benedict, James Park and Levi Smith were elected trustees and directed to solicit subscriptions to purchase a site and erect a house for worship. The subscription paper was not circulated until the summer of 1838. The following year the building was erected on the north side of Main street (the present site of D. C. Whitford's residence), and on Oct. 17, 1839, it

was dedicated, Seth Mattison preaching the sermon for the occasion.

In 1872 the present large building on Lake avenue was erected, the corner stone being laid June 29 of that year. The church was dedicated the following year. It cost about \$22,000 including the site. W. W. Paddock, G. H. Russell and Lacey Rumsay were the committee who had charge of the construction of the new building.

In 1893 a lot on Draper street was purchased at a cost of \$550 and a very handsome parsonage erected which cost \$2,473.

During the summer of 1904 about \$1,500 was expended in repairs on the church property.

The society is practically free from debt and has property altogether valued at about \$18,000.

The present officers are:—Pastor, J. L. Gillard; S. S. Superintendent, William H. Paddock; Epworth League President, Dr. Harry W. Day; Junior League Superintendent, Mrs. Clara M. Gillard; W. H. M. S. President, Mrs. H. L. Rumsay; W. F. M. S. President, Mrs. Mary Brown.

Trustees—J. G. Strait, Wm. H. Paddock, Irving McIntyre, Willis Roe, Elihu Rogers, G. G. Salsbury, Granville Armstrong, Fred Bevier, M. H. Fenn.

Stewards—H. L. Rumsay, I. L. Sherwood, J. H. L. Roe, J. Byron Smith, G. W. Cooper, C. G. Rice, Tibbits Walker, C. H. Allen, C. E. Johnson, W. J. Clapper, W. S. Church, Wm. Winchell, W. W. Jenkins.

The following have preached to the Metho-



Loaned by Emma Clark.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



distts of Wolcott:—Circuit—Samuel Bibbins, 1831; Elijah Barnes, 1832-'4; John Thomas and Moses Lyon, supplies, 1834 (two months); William McKorn and Lewis Bell, 1834-'5; Burrough Holmes and Joseph Cross, 1835-'7 Anson Tuller and Joseph Kilpatrick, 1837.

Preachers in charge of Huron and Wolcott stations—Robert Everdale, Allen H. Tillton, 1840-'2.

Pastors at Wolcott—R. Everdale, 1838-'40; A. H. Tillton, 1840-'2; J. H. Lamb, 1842-'4; E. E. Bragdon, 1844-'6; M. Lyon, 1846-'8; A. Chapin, 1848-'50; C. H. Austin, T. W. Thurston, 1850-'2; L. D. White, 1852-'3; H. Woodruff, 1853-'4; L. Whitcomb, 1854-'6; I. Turney, 1856-'8; L. L. Adkins, 1858-'60; G. H. Salsbury, 1860-'2; Richard Redhead, 1862-'4; Hiram M. Church, 1864-'7; W. S. Titus, 1867-'9; Oscar A. Houghton, 1869-'71; Loren Eastwood, 1871-'4; Burdette W. Hamilton, 1874-'7; Richard H. Clark, 1877-'8; Edmund M. Mills, 1878-'81; L. F. Congdon, 1881-'4. C. T. Moss, 1884-'7; Charles Eddy,

Abram Bunce made the first contract for the purchase of 144 acres from this tract (now known as the Van Vleet farm) in the town of Butler. Jonathan Melvin bought his 500 acres from this estate, including pretty much all of the present site of the village of Wolcott.

When Charles Williamson left this country never to return, although his intentions were to come back, he left Wm. Howe Cuyler as agent for his tract.

**Earliest Schools**—The first Schoolhouse in the town of Wolcott was a log structure built in 1810, in Wolcott village, on the site of Dr. Watkins' residence. In 1812 District No. 1 was erected and a log schoolhouse was constructed by Jonathan Melvin, sr., near the Knapp foundry. The first trustees in this district were Osgood Church, Lambert Woodruff and Eliakum Tucker.

Jonathan Melvin donated an acre of ground,



Smith, Photo.

WOLCOTT FALLS AND THE MILLS.

1887-'90; Calvin L. Conwell, 1890-'3; J. C. B. Moyer, 1893-'7; Samuel F. Sanford, 1897-'8; George E. Hutchings, 1898-1902; William H. Latimer, 1902-'4; Joseph L. Gillard, 1904, (present pastor).

**The Williamson Tract** included all of the towns of Huron and Rose, except two tiers of lots in the south end of the town of Rose, and the western parts of the towns of Wolcott and Butler which were included in the Military tract that is described on another page of this work. The east line of the Williamson tract passed about a mile and a quarter east of the centre of the village of Wolcott. Charles Williamson, the American agent of the Pultenay estate (see Pultenay estate on another page) bought the tract from Sir Wm. Pultenay and from him or his agents were obtained the titles to much of the land included in Wolcott village. About 10,000 acres were sold from this estate at prices ranging from \$2.40 to \$5 an acre. Osgood Church and Fred Wolcott were the sub-agents for the sale of these lands.

now the site of the Baptist church, and a frame school building was erected on it. This building was afterwards moved across the street and made an addition to Obadiah Adams' hotel.

A new structure was erected on the lot near the corner of Washington and New Hartford streets, which stood until 1843, known as the old red schoolhouse. A two-story building was then erected in its place which was burned in 1865.

Among the earlier teachers in these last two buildings were Mary Lambert, daughter of Lambert Woodruff; John, son of Jonathan Melvin; Daniel Butrick; Huldah, daughter of Deacon Noah Seymour (Mrs. John Roe); Prudence Wells (Mrs. Jedediah Wilder); William, son of Elisha Plank; Loren Doolittle Austin Roe; Harlow Hyde; Levi Hendrick; Barabus Knapp; Willis Roe; Samuel Colbath.

**The First Mills** for sawing and grinding in the town of Wolcott were built by Jonathan Melvin in 1810.

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.**—[By Mrs. J. E. Lawrence.]—In the spring of 1844 the Rt. Rev. W. H. Delancy, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Western New York, visited Wolcott and the first Episcopal service in the village was held in the Methodist church, whose people cordially welcomed the Bishop and congregation to their building. After this occasional services were rendered by the several rectors of the Clyde parish, as follows:—Rev. C. G. Ackley, 1849; Charles Gardner, 1851; William Paret, 1855; A. VanOstrand, 1855-60; A. E. Bishop, 1861; F. N. Luson, 1862; R. C. Wall, 1864; R. Dobyns, 1865; L. B. VanDyck, 1867-8.

In September, 1867, St. Stephen's Episcopal church was incorporated with nine male members. The following officers were elected:—Oliver T. Ladue, Senior Warden; Norton E. Merrell, Junior Warden; Thomas B. Baird, Robert B. Underhill, William H. Walker, Jonathan Allen,

about the same time and the church people were without a house. In 1874-'5 the Rev. William H. Lord of Clyde officiated occasionally, and reported the property as consisting of an organ and bell, value \$250.

In 1875 Charles D. Barber was stationed in Wolcott. Under Mr. Barber a site was procured and a subscription list of \$600 obtained. Again, circumstance over which there seemed no control swept away the prospects of a church.

After a lapse of about twenty years Archdeacon Louis C. Washburn reported having officiated five times and sent a lay-reader, Mr. Henry S. Sill of Sodus, and he also reported 23 communicants. From this time infrequent services were held in one hall and another with growing attendance. On Monday July, 14, 1904, services were held by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Walker, Bishop of the Diocese, with Archdeacon Washburn, joined by Rev. F. N. Bouck and the surpliced choir of St. John's



Smith, Photo.

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

James Armstrong, Allen Armstrong, Fred C. Lander and William Coventry, vestrymen.

On the 17th of December of the same year the Rt. Rev. A. C. Coxe, Bishop of the Diocese, in company with the Rev. L. B. VanDyck of Clyde visited the new parish. Rev. VanDyck baptized several persons and these with others were presented to the Bishop for confirmation. At this time services were held in a hall owned by Oliver T. Ladue. To Mr. Ladue and Charles P. Lander was the church in Wolcott chiefly indebted—under God—for its organization, and prospects.

In 1868 the Rev. Lichery Wilber became rector, and reported 18 families, 19 communicants, 64 individual members, with 16 baptisms, the first three months. Through various causes the parish failed to support the minister and again became dependent upon the rector of Clyde and lay readers. In 1870 occurred the death of Oliver T. Ladue and the financial part of the church suffered. Mr. Ladue gave without stint. The building which contained the chapel was burned

church of Clyde. Two adults were baptized and four confirmed. The use of the Baptist church was kindly given for the services.

In November 1902 the Rev. William Benjamin Reynolds began ministration assisted by lay-reader from Rochester. On May 12, 1903, the lot at the head of East Main street was purchased and ground immediately broken for the new church. The corner stone of the beautiful stone edifice was laid by Bishop Walker Nov. 6, 1903. On February 6, 1905, the opening services were held, Archdeacon William L. Davis having taken up the work with zeal. In June, 1904, Rev. Charles R. Allison was placed in charge of the parish and has since served faithfully, the congregation growing in number and interest.

J. E. Lawrence is Senior Warden and Clerk, and E. D. Scott, Treasurer.

**The First Clergyman** who settled and followed his profession in the town of Wolcott was the Rev. Daniel S. Buttick.





REV. J. S. NASMITH.

**Baptist Church —**

[By Rev. J. S. Nasmith].  
—The Baptist church with its 102 members and property worth \$18,000, ranks third among the churches of Wolcott and third or fourth among the Baptist churches in Wayne county.

The first period in the history of the church from its organization in 1832 covers nearly fifty years, reaching a membership of about a hundred followed by a decline in 1874 to only fourteen. Mr. and Mrs. Grove Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Dexter Miner, Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Wood, Mrs. Ellen Jones and Mrs. Drury were the chief survivors of the little band. Of pastors, the writer of this sketch has learned of but three who served in that time: Rev. Isaac Bucklin, said to have been the first pastor, Rev. O. P. Meeks, the last one of that period (his bride will be remembered by old residents, for the work she did in the great temperance revival of 1877-8; though compelled to use a crutch she was very active in that campaign), and Rev. Amos P. Draper, who was twice pastor,

and whose Godly character, energy and tact was marked by all. Dexter N. Miner is the only one left to the church now, of all who were connected with it in those early days.

The second period in the history of the church dates from 1879 and covers about eight years. Good old brother Wood had prayed and plead at associational meetings for many years that help might come to Wolcott. Rev. A. H. Stearns could not get rid of the thought that God wanted him to help answer that man's prayers. While pastor at South Butler he had had wonderful success in meetings at a schoolhouse near Wolcott in 1875. This interest had grown stronger as he had nourished it year by year. The people were nearer Wolcott than South Butler, they had more interests drawing them that way. It seemed to Father Stearns that God had raised up these converts that they might go to the help of this feeble band. The converts saw it as he did and on a never-to-be-forgotten day a meeting was held in Wolcott to effect a union of this strong colony in the country with the weak church in town.

Only three of the Wolcott church were there to receive these new members:—Mrs. Wood (Father Wood had died a little while before), Mrs. Ellen Jones and Mrs. Drury. There were thirty



Borrowed Cut

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

of these converts, four others from the same neighborhood and four more who joined by experience. With Father Stearns as pastor all went well until poor health forced him to give up the work. Rev. A. R. Babcock took charge of the church in 1883 and was very successful in getting large congregations and in building up the Sunday school. He stayed only two years, however, and when he left the condition of things was such, the church did not settle another pastor for a while. There are now on the roll nineteen names of persons who united with the church during the second period.

The next step forward in the history of the church was due in no small degree to the coming to Wolcott of two men and their families: Messrs. H. A. Clark and T. F. Metcalf, who entered into business here. They were Baptists, and were willing to help push forward the interests of the church. Tired of the inaction of the past two years the church began holding services and Father Stearns cheerfully did what he could again in this new start. The State Convention sent Evangelists Brand and Caldwell to hold meetings. The converts from these meetings and the others who joined made quite an addition to their numbers. In February, 1888, Rev. J. J. Hammer began work here. The present church edifice was begun in the second year of his stay. Then came Rev. G. W. Ball, in June, 1890, and in the two years of his pastorate, the church building was completed.

But once more the dark days came. A debt of \$3,400 burdened the church. How to get rid of that was the serious problem of the next five years. Rev. W. L. Ferguson was with the church a few months. Rev. C. E. Christian came next and stayed nine months. After an interval of six months Rev. Abner Morrill began, July 1, 1894, a pastorate that continued up to October 1, 1900. He was old, not very strong, but ably piloted the church through their financial difficulties. Quite a number of members also united with the church during those six years. In fact the membership reached its highest mark at that time. Much good was done by him in his work in the country round about Wolcott. He had a very helpful family who will also long be remembered. There are fifty-eight names on the church roll of persons who united during the period of 14 years, from 1887 to 1901.

We have now come to the fourth and last period in the history of the church—to the time when the Baptists, freed from all indebtedness and enriched by an endowment, could begin a career independent of any outside aid for defraying the expenses of maintaining public worship. Dexter Miner has the honor of making the first gift of property to the church—a dwelling and lots on New Hartford street. Only a few years later by the bequest of Dr. E. H. Draper, a son of a former pastor, another house was given to the church, with a fund of several thousand dollars. All this came during the latter part of Father Morrill's stay here.

It is less than four years ago the new order of things began. The church has not yet got into the full benefit of the income it will have. Nor has it seen any more than the merest beginning of what its resources ought to make possible. This accounts in part for the fact that Rev. G. W. Ball's second pastorate from 1901 to 1903 was not more fruitful in results. The present pastor, Rev. J. S. Nasmith, who began work October 11, 1903, has seen 22 unite with the church; more paid for current expenses and more

for benevolence than in any other year in the history of the church; yet he realizes, too, that he is simply doing preparatory work, getting things ready as far as he can, for the grand move forward he feels sure is bound to come during the days of one of his successors. One of the choicest blessings that has come during the present pastorate is that of a second gift from Dexter Miner—a new, modern-in-style parsonage costing \$2,500.

The present officers of the church are named in the following list:

Pastor, Rev. J. S. Nasmith.

Deacons: Elias Taylor, Charles Kellecutt, T. F. Metcalf, J. J. Palmer.

Trustees: Charles Kellecutt, John J. Palmer, T. F. Metcalf, Elias Taylor, D. C. Whitford, Joel Fanning

Clerk, Mrs. Galusha Oathout.

Treasurer:—J. J. Palmer.

Superintendent of the Sunday School, Miss Agnes Ford; President of the Y. P. S. C. E., George Van Vleck; President of Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. C. Kellecutt; President of Ladies' Aid Society, Mrs. Allen Westfall.

**The Erie Canal** was begun—actual work—July 4, 1817, by breaking ground at Rome, N. Y., and was finished October 26, 1825. The festival celebration over the completion of this enterprise was held in New York city Friday, Nov. 4, 1825, upon the arrival of the first boat to pass through the entire length of the canal. On Wednesday, the day the canal was completed and the waters of Lake Erie were admitted at Buffalo, at ten o'clock in the morning, the "Seneca Chief" began her voyage eastward. Her start was announced by the boom of a cannon at Buffalo. Another piece of ordinance stationed eight miles east responded. Another piece eight miles farther east took up the refrain, which was, in that manner, passed along from cannon to cannon, placed eight miles apart along the canal, from Buffalo to New York. The time required for the salute to pass the entire distance, 544 miles, was one hour and twenty minutes. The report from the last piece at Sandy Hook was responded to by guns placed at the battery and was re-echoed along the line back to Buffalo.

The legislative enactment authorizing the canal became a law April 15, 1817. The middle section was completed in 1819. On October 29, 1822, the western section was completed and the canal that day opened between Rochester and Little Falls. The eastern section was completed so that on October 8, 1823, boats entered the Hudson river. The last section to be finished was that between Rochester and Buffalo at the time above stated.

The passage of the "Seneca Chief," drawn by four grey horses at the start with regular relays, was hailed with joy at every village along the canal. The party aboard consisted of Gov. DeWitt Clinton and staff with invited guests, who at Lyons disembarked and were entertained with dinner and toasts. The boat reached Albany on the morning of November 3, and New York before daylight, November 4. On board was a keg of water from Lake Erie which was emptied into the ocean.

**State Engineer** from Wayne Co.:—Van Rensselaer Richmond, Nov. 3, 1857 (elected); served until Jan. 1, 1870.





GEORGE S. HORTON.

**George S Horton**, four years member of State Assembly representing the county of Wayne, and for more than twenty years practicing lawyer of prominence in that county, is a member of the law firm of Horton & Brown. Born in Wolcott March 23, 1857, the growth and prosperity of the village are closely interwoven with his own career and its promotion is to him a matter of deep interest. Rarely a local enterprise is conceived without his advice and co-operation, and in many projects such as the National Bank at Wolcott, which he was chiefly instrumental in organizing, and of which he is the vice-president, and the creamery Mr. Horton not only invested of his means but was largely the promoter. The canning factory was established and placed in a prosperous condition through his efforts in interesting others.

Mr. Horton was educated in the Leavenworth Institute, the Wolcott public schools, the Union seminary at Red Creek and at Ann Arbor, Mich.; and was graduated in law at the Albany Law school in 1882. He married Della, the daughter of Nelson Wells of Wolcott, in 1883, by whom there is one child—a daughter, Cecile who was born Dec. 30, 1886, who was graduated from the High school this year and now goes to Vassar.

Soon after entering the practice of law Mr. Horton entered into partnership with the late Col. Anson S. Wood, a distinguished lawyer and man of prominence, and they were associated in practice for nine years. Mr. Horton at once entered actively into politics, being a strong Republican and finally becoming one of the recognized leaders of his party, taking the platform during the most important campaigns. Through his influence Wolcott obtained one of the finest postoffices in the county.

In 1893 he accepted the nomination for Member of Assembly and won the fight by 2,107 majority over a popular young Democrat. Mr. Horton served in the State Assembly four years, 1894-'7, and achieved some distinction for the active part he took both in committee and on the floor of the House. Several measures he introduced, some of which became laws and others did not, were regarded on the whole as consistent legislation—that is the greatest good for the greatest number. Among them were bills lowering the rate of interest from 6 to 5 per cent. and establishing an equitable basis for sheriffs' and witnesses' fees.

Mr. Horton's name has been connected with the so-called "Horton Boxing Law." The facts in this matter do full justice to that gentleman from any point of view. That year there was a general public move which threatened to carry the Legislature off its feet and by enactment establish the legality of prize fighting so that no community could interfere with it in any way. The "Horton law" was a leaven which "held up" pro-fisticuff legislation and prevented the enactment of a law which would have disgraced the commonwealth.

Mr. Horton was active on many important committees during his four years a member of



Whitford, Photo.

GEORGE S. HORTON'S RESIDENCE.

the Legislature,—a period which he alone in the history of the county has served. No other man has represented Wayne county at Albany four years.

For two years succeeding his last term in the Assembly Mr. Horton was attached to the staff of the Attorney-General of the State at Albany, in the capacity of special counsel, being engaged in defending cases against the State in the Court of Claims. This gave him valuable experience and fitted him for special capacity in his own practice which has now become second to that of no other law firm in the northern part of the county.

**Assemblymen; Terms of Service:**—Adams, Wm. H 1825; Armstrong, Thomas 1827-'9; '39; Alsop, Robert 1836; Arne Jr, David 1837; Archer, Orson 1867.

Boynton, Jonathan 1827-'9; Bartle, Jas. P 1834; Benjamin, Elisha 1835; Blackman, Ebson 1838, '41; Boyce, Peter 1849; Bottum, Edward W 1851; Bennett, John P 1854-5, '90; Barnes, Thomas 1856; Bixby, Abel J 1860; Burnham, Edwin K 1885; Brinkerhoff, G W 1892.

Chapin, Luther 1830; Corning, Joseph W 1861; Collins, Thaddeus W 1863-'5; Clark, Henry M 1874; Clark, Wm H 1875; Crafts, Albert P 1880; Dickson, James 1824; Dickson, John J 1845; Durfee, Elias 1846; Durfee, Elihu 1850; Dutton, Wm 1852; Durfee, Lemuel 1863-'4; Durfee, Henry R 1871; Davis, Barnet H 1886-'8.

Eddy, Seth 1830-'1; Estes, Charles 1858. Filmore, Luther 1828; Foster, Reuben H 1836; Farnum, Ammon S 1884-'5.

Graves, Henry K 1859; Glenn, E. McKinney 1868-'9; Gurnee, Emory W 1874, '76; Gates, Addison W 1881; Greenwood, Wm E 1882; Groat, R P 1889-'91; Greenwood, M I 1898-'9; Griffith, Fred W 1900-'2.

Hall, Ambrose 1826; Humeston, James 1832-'3; Holley, John M 1838, '41; Hyde, Harlow 1856; Hall, Amasa 1870; Hotchkiss, Leman 1883; Hough, John E 1893; Horton, G. S. 1894-'7.

Johnson, Thomas 1857; Kip, John L 1826; Knapp, Alanson M 1845.

Lapham, John 1848; Leavenworth, Isaac 1849; Laing, John A 1859; L'Amoreaux, Jabez S 1861. Morse, Enoch 1825; Morley, Horace 1840; Moore, Samuel 1847; Miller, James M. 1878; Munson, John A 1879.

Norris, Elliott B 1891; Osband, Durfee 1840; Pettit, Elisha 1848; Peacock, Joseph 1857; Pryne, Abram 1862; Parshall, De Witt 1868; Pierson, Silas S 1884.

Roe, Austin 1844; Rogers, Wm H 1865-'7; Russell, Allen S 1875-'6; Robinson, Rowland 1881.

Salisbury, Ambrose 1832-'3, '39; Strong, Theron R 1842; Sheffield, Frederick U 1843; Sours, Philip 1843; Sanford, Isaac R 1844; Southard, Israel R 1847; Streeter, Benj H 1853; Sentell, Edward W 1858; Servis, James M 1860; Sherman, Jefferson 1879-'80; Saxton, Charles T 1887-'9; Smith, Addison P 1903-'5.

Tucker, Pomeroy 1837; Thomas, Eron N 1862; Thornton, Merritt 1869; Thistlethwaite, Jeremiah 1877.

Vandenburg, John 1866; Valentine, Jackson 1877-'8.

Whipple, Russell 1824, '34 Wells, Annanias 1831; Wylie, Wm D 1835; Wilson, James M 1842, '50; Wisner, James T 1846, '55; Whitcomb, Loammi 1853; Wade, Willis G 1854; Wood, Anson S 1870-'1; Wells, Edward B 1872-'3; Weed,

Oscar 1882-'3; Wood, William 1886; Whitcomb, Flynn 1892.

Yeomans, Theron G 1851-'2; Yeomans, Lucien T 1872-'3.

**Pastors,** M. E. Church; Personal Notes of a Few of the Earlier Preachers in Wolcott:—Rev. Joseph H. Lamb, one of the earliest, became a supernumery in 1888 and superannuated in 1893. He was endearingly called Father Lamb.

Rev. E. E. Bragdon, who followed Lamb to Wolcott (1844), died March 20, 1862. For years he was eminent as a Theological instructor.

Rev. Almon Chapin, who came in 1848, died at Sandy Creek Dec. 1, 1878.

Rev. Lafayette D. White spent forty-one years in the active ministry, and served as Presiding Elder of four different districts. He died at Syracuse June 23, 1894.

Pastor Isaac Turney died March 5, 1880.

Rev. Loren L. Adkins died Oct. 18, 1881.

Rev. George H. Salsbury died Nov. 27, 1863.

Rev. Richard Redhead spent his latter years in Syracuse.

Rev. Hiram Merrick Church afterwards preached at Trenton, N. Y.

Rev. Wicks S. Titus afterwards resided at Syracuse.

Rev. B. W. Hamilton was the first pastor in the new church and he led a large revival. During his term of three years he married forty-one couple. He afterwards preached at Elmira, N. Y.

Rev. Richard H. Clark near the close of his first year was permanently disabled for preaching. He bought the old parsonage where he lived until his death, March 22, 1894.

Rev. E. M. Mills, graduate of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Ct., received many honors from the Conference, was active in the Epworth League and received the degree Ph. D. from Syracuse University and D. D. from Wesleyan University.

Rev. LaFayette Congdon from Wolcott went to Bradford, Pa., to preach. In evangelical work he was highly successful. During the course of his ministry he was successively passed through five Conferences.

**Presidents** of the village and years of service:—

Wolcott was incorporated Feb. 24, 1852. The names of those who have served as presidents prior to March 18, 1873, are not obtainable. The list from that time is as follows:

Asa D. Kellogg 1873; Anson S. Wood 1874; Wm. W. Paddock 1875; George B. Curtis 1876; Thomas W. Johnson 1877; Martin E. Cornwell 1878, '85-'7; David H. Mann 1879; Henry A. Graves 1880-'1, '84; Benham S. Wood 1882; Alanson Church 1888; F. S. Johnson 1889-'92; G. H. Northup 1893-'4, '97; T. F. Metcalf 1895; E. W. Newberry 1896; H. T. Kelly 1898; A. B. Thacker 1899; M. E. Cornwell 1900, 1905 (present incumbent); Dr. R. H. Watkins 1901-'4.

**First Village Officers**—Wolcott village was incorporated Feb. 24, 1852 and re-incorporated in February, 1873. On March 18, 1873, the following village officers were elected:—President, Asa D. Kellogg; Trustees, B. Franklin Knapp, Horace L. Dudley, Nelson Moore; Treasurer, Henry A. Graves; Collector, Hiram Silliman; Clerk, Wm. O. Church.





EDWARD T. BROWN.

**Edward T. Brown** of the firm of Horton & Brown, lawyers, is one of the best known of the younger members of the bar of Wayne county. Mr. Brown was born in Sterling, Cayuga county, Aug. 3, 1870, and was educated in the district school, the Red Creek Union school and the University of Michigan. Studying law in the office of Wood & Horton he was admitted to the bar in 1899. In 1901 he associated himself in the practice of law in partnership with George S. Horton, under the firm name of Horton & Brown. The practice of this firm is quite extensive throughout the county and a great deal of its business is in the settlement of estates, in which the firm has been usually prompt and exact. Mr. Brown is very active in local enterprise and is always prepared to assist in promoting the general interests of the village. He is an active member of the Wolcott Board of Trade of which he is secretary. Horton &

Brown, Republicans, both prominent in county politics, do a considerable legal business and in the many important cases they have handled they have been successful. Their knowledge of business and family connections in the northern part of the county have placed them in a favorable position to look after the interests of those living at a distance who have business in this section which requires the assistance of attorneys. Mr. Brown in November, 1901, married Mary, the daughter of W. W. Paddock of Wolcott.

**Buttonwood Hotel**—Settlers lodged in the Trunk of a Tree.—The early settlers in Wolcott came from New Malborough, Mass., and New Hartford, Ct., and a number of them drove their teams that distance, bringing along farm implements and household goods as well as seed for first planting. They had a fair road—those who came in the early part of the century—to Cayuga lake, where they crossed on a bridge then turned north via Lyons. From that place the first day's journey was to the Buttonwood Hotel, now Wayne Centre. This was simply a hollow tree, it is asserted as a fact, which had fallen and was capable of holding three families [Hiram Church in "Lake Shore News"] and was occupied by home seekers coming through in the spring of 1808.

The three families who found protection in this strange shelter were those of Levi Wheeler, Osgood Church and Obadiah Adams, numbering 14. Mr. Pierce, an old settler, informed Mr. Church that he had seen the log and thinks it was on the farm of Mr. Jeffers.

**Judges** of Wayne county; in alphabetical order; date of taking office and terms served. [They were common pleas judges until 1846]:—Adams, Wm. H., May 12, 1846; Cowles, G. W., 1864-'9, '74-'9, '86; Collins, T. W., 1880-'5; Hallett, J. W., April 19, 1825; Jerome, Hiram K., Jan. 29, 1840; Ketchum, Leander, 1852-'9; Middleton, G. H., June 1847; McLouth, C., 1869; Norton, L. M., 1870-'3; Palmer, O. H., April 12, 1843; Sisson, Wm., Jan. 30, 1830; Sherwood, Lyman, 1860-'3; Sawyer, S. N., 1898-1909; Tiffany, A. R., March 28, 1827.



Whitford. Photo.

EDWARD T. BROWN'S RESIDENCE.



J. R. WALDORF.

**J. R. Waldorf** of the firm of Fish & Waldorf began business in Wolcott twelve years ago, forming a co-partnership with E. B. Dowd in the grocery trade, the firm of Waldorf & Dowd then carrying on trade in the place now occupied by Hammer. Six years later Mr. Waldorf bought in the grocery and drug lines with Dr. T. S. Fish under the present firm name, which since the death of Dr. Fish has continued unchanged, his estate holding an active partnership in the business, represented by Fanny, the daughter of Dr. Fish.

Mr. Waldorf, born in Galen in 1849, all of his life a resident of Wayne county and for many years a buyer of produce and dealer in farm implements, enjoys a large acquaintanceship. Jacob Waldorf, his father, moved into the town of Huron in 1852 and no farmer in the town was

better known or had a higher standing in the community.

Mr. J. R. Waldorf for some years handled apples for large New York and local buyers in Wolcott and Clyde and was regarded as a reliable inspector, protecting the interest of the seller as well as the buyer. Since his residence in the village of Wolcott Mr. Waldorf has been identified with public enterprise in many ways, lending his influence and co-operation to the promotion of new industries where it might be possible to bring them here; and taking stock in such concerns as opened their books to local subscriptions. He is a director in the Wolcott creamery. He is also a member of the Presbyterian church in which society he is active. During three years he was superintendent of the Sunday school in the Huron Presbyterian church. Mr. Waldorf is prominent in the Maccabees of which he was commander for six years. He is treasurer of the Engine Company and has been for three years past. Deeply interested in agriculture Mr. Waldorf owns a farm in Huron and possesses a half interest in the Jacob Waldorf homestead. In 1874 he married Nettie E., the daughter of John Stanley of Wayne Centre.

**Sheriffs; Terms of Office** [Alphabetical Order]:—Borrodaile, John, 1844-'6; Barnard, Geo. W., 1847-'9; Bennett, John P., 1862-'4, '68-'70; Brownell, John N., 1871-'3; Clark, Thomas M., 1877-'9; Foster, Reuben H., 1826-'8; Foster, Cullen, 1829-'31; Ford, Charles H., (appointed to succeed Walter Thornton, deceased), 1894. Groat, Richard P., 1874-'6; Glen, Wm. J., 1880-'2; Hemenway, Truman, 1835-'7; Howell, Vernon R., 1883-'5; Knowles, George W., (appointed to succeed C. E. Reed, deceased), 1890-'1.

Mann, Hiram, 1838-'40; Miles, Geo. R., 1901-'3; Nottingham Wm. P., 1856-'58; Palmetter, Calvin D., 1832-'4; Paddock, Geo. W., 1853-'5; Parshall, Rossman J., 1886-'8.

Rogers, Bartlett R., 1865-'7; Reed, Charles E., 1889-'90; Stout, Simon W., 1841-'3; Snedaker, Adrastus, 1859-'61; Swezey, Geo. M., 1895-'7; Thornton, Walter, 1892-'3; Ward, Chester A., 1850-'2; Wheeler, De Witt C., 1898-1900; Yeomans, Albert, 1904-'6.



Whitford, Photo.

J. R. WALDORF'S RESIDENCE.



**Earliest Land Contracts in the Old Town of Wolcott; giving location by lots:—**

1808—June 16—Abram Bunce, lot 57; 100 acres. Robert Vantassel, lot 54; 144 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

June 21—Alpheus Harmon, lots 169 and 170; 113 and 114 acres respectively.

June 22—Silas Munsell, lot 65; 180 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres.

Sept. 30—Aaron Hoppin, lot 55; 165 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Eliab Abbott, lot 376; 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

Nov. 26—Glazier Wheeler, lot 52; 152 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Consideration in each of above cases was \$3.50 an acre.

1809—July 1—Obadiah Adams, lot 19; 106 acres; price \$3.50.

Aug. 8—Thomas and Elijah Hancock, lot 104; 50 acres; \$3.75.

Aug. 9—Wm. P. Newell, lot 144; 85 acres; \$4.

Aug. 12—Lucius Hibbard, lot 104; 47 3-10 acres; \$3.62.

Aug. 13—Levi Wheeler, lot 45; 113 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

Sept. 15—Roger Sheldon, lot 22; 106 acres; \$3.62.

May 26—Eliakim Tupper, lot 53; 20 acres; \$4.13.

May 28—Jacob Watson, lot 56; 94 acres; \$4.13.

June 1—Zenas Wheeler, lot 44; 100 acres; \$4.

July 20—Giles Fitch, lot 352, north side; 96 3-10 acres; \$4.24.

July 30—Thaddeus Fitch, lot 352, south side; 96 3-10 acres; \$4.24.

Aug. 9—Elihu Spencer, lot 71; 156 4-10 acres; \$4.21.

Aug. 17—Nathaniel Graves, lot 88; 188 acres; \$4.

Sept. 4—Ira Smith, lot 42; 59 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres; \$4.50.

Nov. 5—Zenas Hyde, lot 26; 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres; \$4.06.

Nov. 11—Asa and Silas Town, lots 212 and 213; 150 acres; \$4.

Nov. 23—John R. Laraway, lot 343; 70 acres; \$4.

Dec. 2—Nathan Parker, lot 98; 114 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres; \$4.12, Sheldon and O. Seymour, lot 70; 100 acres; \$4.25.



Smith, Photo. FISH & WALDORF'S DRUG AND GROCERY STORE.

Sept. 26—Wareham Sheldon, lots 24 and 25; 142 4-10 acres; \$3.62.

Oct. 14—James Alexander, lot 411; 70 acres; \$3.50.

Oct. 21—Prentice Palmer, lot 62; 156 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres; \$4.

Oct. 23—Thaddeus Collins, lot 141; 99 acres; \$3.50.

1810—Feb. 18—Jacob and Eli Ward, lot 122; 100 4-10 acres; \$3.50.

July 26—Eliab Abbott, lot 43; 87 acres; \$3.50.

Dec. 25—Milton Fuller, lot 182; 98 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres; \$4.

1811—Jan. 11—Pender Marsh, lot 205; 50 acres; \$4.

Jan. 30—Ephapras Wolcott, lot 160; 100 8-10 acres; \$4.

March 1—Stephen and Sylvanus Joiner, lot 344; 105 acres; \$4.

April 1—Seth Shepherd, lot 197; 40 acres; \$4.

April 3—Daniel Lounsbury, lot 206; 106 6-10 acres; \$4.

Jonathan Wilson, lot 140, south half; 50 acres; \$4.

April 16—John Wade, lot 140; 100 1-7 acres; \$4.

1812—April 8—John Burns, lot 153; 108 6-10 acres; \$4.25.

April 14—Stephen Betts, lot 360; 100 acres; \$4.25.

April 22—Abram Palmer, lot 140; 102 acres; \$4.

May 4—Thomas Avery, lot 154; 103 acres; \$4.25.

June 12—Lorin Doolittle, lot 40; 65 5-10 acres; \$4.50.

June 24—Thomas Hale, lots 312 and 304; 200 acres; \$4.

June 25—Demarkus Holmes, lot 187; 101 3-10 acres; \$4.32.

Oct. 2—Noadiah Gillett, lot 132; 101 acres; \$4.

Oct. 12—James Phillips, lot 92; 99 acres; \$4.50.

Nov. 13—Eli Wheeler, lot 188; 99 7-10 acres; \$4.

Nov. 14—Jacob Ward, lot 140; 50 acres; \$4.25.

Nov. 14—John Southwick, lot 191; 96 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres; \$4.

Nov. 18—Elijah Howe, lot 167; 50 acres; \$4.

Dec. 29—Jonathan Wilson, lot 161; 31 acres; \$4.25.

Dec. 30—Jarvis Mudge, lot 74; 55 acres; \$3.50.  
1813—March 10—Asahel Gillett, lot 155; 50 acres; \$4.25.

April 27—Ezra Knapp, lot 75; 59 7-10 acres; \$4.75.

May 21—Elisha Plank, lots 385, 383 and 381; 467 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres; \$4.25.

May 30—Wm. Tindall (colored man), lot 291; 66 acres; \$4.

June 26—C. Avery and C. Andrews, lots 95 and 77; 207 2-10 acres; \$4.38.

July 1—Joseph B. Grandy, lot 201; 101 4-10 acres; \$4. Simeon Van Auken, lot 126; 35 acres.

July 6—Robert Mason, lots 136 and 106; 215 acres; \$4.

July 9—Christopher Martin, lot 114; 128 acres.

Aug. 17—Asa Whitmore, lot 208; 100 6-10 acres.

**Seamans' Tragic Death.**—A view of James F. Seamans in mid-air balancing on a rope in front of the Wolcott House appears on page 8, and his figure can be seen plainly with the aid of a reading glass. "Prof. S. J. Dare" was his professional cognomen. Some years after, May 8, 1882, while performing at Flushing, L. I., the rope slipped and the sudden tightening of the slack threw him to the pavement. From the injuries sustained he expired in thirty minutes.

This was the second fall, the first being at Hollister, Cal., three months prior to his death. Mr. Seamans' home was at Wolcott where he was a member of the Masonic order, and a citizen in excellent standing. His widow was a Wolcott lady. Seamans became a prominent figure in his performances, at times travelling with Barnum and again giving exhibitions of his own. He was a temperate man, and had the esteem of all who knew him.



Smith, Photo.

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Group sitting at the right (left to right):—Mrs. Edward Wadsworth, Mrs. Clarence Brewster, Mrs. Edward Kellogg, Mrs. R. Stewart, Mrs. Thomas Henderson. Two standing:—Mrs. A. Wells, Mrs. Knapp. Standing on Porch:—Mrs. John Murphy, Mrs. E. Lyttle, Mrs. L. Harder, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. W. Easton. At the left on the Porch:—Mrs. W. Wager, Mrs. Dr. Horton, Mrs. Percy Harmon.

The Central Group (from left to right):—Lower Row—Mrs. E. Peck, Miss Hattie Watson, Mrs. H. Thacker, Mrs. Randall Shaw, Mrs. Charles Thomas, Mrs. Omar Curtis, Mrs. Wilder. 2d Row—Mrs. M. Clark, Mrs. Hattie Johnson, Mrs. C. T. Shaw, Miss Mary Talcott, Mrs. Leslie Brockway, Mrs. Newton, Michel, Mrs. James Brewster. 3d Row—Mrs. W. D. Campbell, Mrs. Ida Cosad, Mrs. George Reed, Miss Nellie Curtis, Mrs. A. Brink. 4th Row—Mrs. A. Harder, Mrs. O. C. Davis, Mrs. C. T. Johnson, Miss Lillian Foote. Rear Row (standing on the porch)—Mrs. Benham Wood, Mrs. James Cook, Mrs. Brundage, Mrs. Bert Thacker, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Clayton Johnson.

Aug. 26—Thomas Hall, lot 304; 25 acres; \$4.28.

Sept. 11—Samuel Haskell, lot 163; 102 acres; \$4.90.

Oct. 15—Charles Sweet, lot 344; 50 acres; \$4.

**Famous Giants**—Goliah, Palestine, 11 feet high; Galbara, Rome, 9 feet, 9 inches; John Middleton, England, 9 feet, 3 inches; "Frederick's Swede," Sweden, 8 feet, 4 inches; Cujanus, Finland, 7 feet, 9 inches; Gilly, Tyrol, 8 feet, 1 inch; Patrick Cotter, Cork, 8 feet, 7 inches; Chang Gow, Pekin, 7 feet, 8 inches.

**The First Attorneys** admitted to practice in the county of Wayne at the Court of Common Pleas (first session) held at the Presbyterian church, Lyons, Tuesday May 27, 1823, Judges Tallmadge, Sisson, Arne and Monax on the bench, were the following—

Wm. H. Adams, Frederick Smith, Orville L. Holly, Wm. J. Hough, Graham H. Chapin, Hugh Jameson, John Fleming, Jr., Wm. Wells, Alexander R. Tiffany, Thomas P. Baldwin, Charles F. Smith, Edward N. Coe, David Hudson, Jesse Clark, Nathan Parke, Lansing B. Mizner, Jared Willson, Lemuel W. Ruggles, Mark H. Sibley, John Burton.





FLETCHER S. JOHNSON.

**Fletcher S. Johnson** for about thirty years was one of the best known and most highly regarded of the Wolcott business men, contemporaneous with such men of character and influence—all of whom passed away within the same brief period—as Hermen C. Creque, Jeremiah Sebring, William H. Thacker, A. R. Tucker, Harlow C. Merrill, Chauncey P. Smith, Abijah W. Moore, William H. Thomas, G. Melvin Knapp and Dr. Edwin H. Draper.

Mr. Johnson ranked high as a citizen whose unimpeachable character, honor, sincerity, earnestness and Christian life, was ever an example inviting others to follow the way he had consistently followed. Venturing largely in trade and enterprise Mr. Johnson was conspicuously successful; and although his mind was fully occupied with business cares he found time to devote much of his energy in doing good to the community, giving freely of his means to calls for char-

ity and devoting both personal attention and funds to religious purposes. He was a deacon and trustee in the Presbyterian church and for eighteen years labored arduously as superintendent of that Sunday school, which position he occupied at the time of his death. Mrs. Johnson taught the infant class for about thirty years and she was a constant inspiration to her husband in that field as in all others.

Mr. Johnson was born in Wolcott on May 11, 1840. His first business venture was that of partner in the drug business with Samuel H. Foster. They were together two or three years in a store on the present site of the electric light plant.

On December 24, 1861, he married Miss Hattie, the daughter of Spencer Chapin, a prominent farmer of Huron, and during two years he engaged in farming. Then he entered into business with Martin E. Cornwell. It was while they were in company that the big fire swept the north side of Main street cleaning them and many others out. Together they erected the block in which each afterwards engaged separately in business. The Cornwell store is that now occupied by Fish & Waldorf, and Mr. Johnson's place of business for many years later is now that of Johnson & King. The members of the latter firm were clerks with him whom he finally took into partnership. They are Clarence E. Johnson and Fred W. King.

In 1886 he formed a co-partnership with Gardner H. Northup in the evaporated apple business, which became one of the largest in the handling of fruit in the state. It is said that during the busiest period of their activity more fruit was shipped from Wolcott in a single year than from any other place. Messrs. Northup and Johnson's association in this enterprise continued down to the time of the latter's death, although for a year prior thereto Mr. Johnson's health did not permit him to actively engage in the business.

Speaking of his business relations with Mr. Johnson for about eighteen years, Mr. Northup at a memorial service held after the death of his partner, said that no articles of agreement were ever drawn up between them and that nothing save a verbal bargain held them together. As a business man, Mr. Northup said, there were not many men with whom he would venture into partnership on such terms.



Smith, Photo.

MRS. FLETCHER S. JOHNSON'S RESIDENCE.

In the early part of January, 1901, Mr. Johnson, by the advice of his physicians went to Clifton Springs Sanitarium accompanied by Mrs. Johnson. But a short time after, Jan. 19, 1901, Mr. Johnson died from an attack of apoplexy. The next day, accompanied by the widow and her daughter and family—Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Towleron of Lyons—the remains were brought to Wolcott.

On the following Wednesday the funeral was held at the family home in this village and the remains were buried in Leavenworth Cemetery.

That the death of Mr. Johnson was felt to be a great loss to the community was shown by the general attendance at the services of business men and others and the general closing of places of business in the village during the hour of the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had one son who died when eight years old. Mrs. Dr. Towleron, Nellie Johnson, was regarded by all as an own daughter. There is only one grandchild living, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Towleron, who is

**Genealogy of Wayne County**—All of this territory was first included in Tryon county which was erected in New York province before the revolution, central and western New York not then being opened to white settlements. Giving the dates of the erection of the several counties and towns out of which the territory was finally whittled down to Wayne county, may be figuratively stated as the genealogy of Wayne county:—

Wayne county; erected April 12, 1823; from Ontario and Seneca counties.

Ontario; erected Jan. 27, 1789; from Montgomery county; included western New York west of the foot of Seneca lake.

Seneca; erected March 24, 1804; from Cayuga.

Cayuga; erected March 8, 1799; from Onondaga.

Onondaga; erected March 5, 1794; from Herkimer.

Herkimer; erected Feb. 16, 1791; from Montgomery. Montgomery substituted for Tryon April 2, 1784.



Smith, Photo. MAIN ST., NORTH SIDE, LOOKING WEST FROM DRAPER ST.

named after his grandfather, Fletcher Johnson Towleron, and is now ten years old.

**Lakes of New York State**—Height above tide. —Avalanche, Essex Co., 2,900 ft.; Colden, Essex Co., 2,851; Henderson, Essex Co., 1,936; Sanford, Essex Co., 1,826; Eckford, Hamilton Co., 1,791; Fulton Chain (Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Lakes), Hamilton Co., 1,776; Racket, Hamilton Co., 1,745; Fork-ed, Hamilton Co., 1,704; Newcomb, Essex Co., 1,698; Cattaraugus, Cattaraugus Co., 1,665; Fulton Chain (Third, Fourth and Fifth Lakes), Herkimer Co., 1,645; Long, Herkimer Co., 1,575; Cranberry, St. Lawrence Co., 1,570; Upper Saranac, Franklin Co., 1,567; Tupper, Franklin Co., 1,545; Rich, Essex Co., 1,545; Lower Saranac, Franklin Co., 1,527; Pleasant, Hamilton Co., 1,500; Chautauqua, Chautauqua Co., 1,291; Tully, Onondaga Co., 1,200; Schuyler, Otsego Co., 1,200; Otsego, Otsego Co., 1,193; Cazenovia, Madison Co., 900; Skaneateles, Onondaga Co., 860; Crook-ed, Yates Co., 718; Owasco, Cayuga Co., 670; Canandaigua, Ontario Co., 668; Seneca, 447; Cayuga, 387; Oneida, 369; Onondaga, 361; Ontario, 232; Champlain, 93.

Tryon; erected March 12, 1722; from Albany.

Albany; erected Nov. 1, 1683; one of the ten counties first erected in New York province. The other were New York, Dutchess, Kings, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester.

**Fire of 1876.**—On the evening of August 26, 1876, a fire broke out in the upper story of Paddock & Tuller's hardware store and swept a part of the east side of Mill street, north from Main street. Six business firms were burned out. Paddock & Tuller's building stood near the corner of Main street. Next—on the corner—was the small shoe shop of Calvin Moore. Going north from Paddock & Tuller's were the buildings occupied, respectively, by Fish & Peck, druggists, U. G. Brewster, flour and feed, F. J. Phillips, tin shop, and Curtiss & Knapp, foundry. On the second floor of Paddock & Tuller were Beach & Newberry, undertakers. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles lived in the rear. All of the above named were burned out.





MISS BESSIE FISH'S S. S. CLASS, BAPTIST CHURCH.

Lower Row (left to right):—Grace Vincent, Vera Nasmith, Miss Bessie Fish, Alice Kelley, Ethel Miller. Upper Row:—Olive Coleman, Alta Luffman, Blanche Metcalf, Mildred Metcalf, Laura Hall.

**Supervisors** of the Town of Wolcott:—Osgood Church 1810-'13; Adonijah Church 1814- 17; G. L. Nicholas 1818; Thomas Armstrong 1818 (served a part of his predecessor's term); Jesse Mathews 1819; George B. Brinkerhoff 1820; Norman Sheldon 1821-'2, '24 '5; Arad Talcott 1822; David Arne Jr. 1826-'8, '36; Daniel Roe Jr. 1829-'34; Abel Lyon 1835, '37-'9; James M. Wilson 1840-'1, '46, '50, '52-'3, '58-'9; Wm. O. Wood 1842-'4, '47-'9, '62-'5; Aaron H. Boylan 1845; E. L. Leavenworth 1851, '54; W. J. Preston 1855; John Boylan 1856; Andrew Preston 1857; Thaddeus W. Collins 1860; Amos Nash 1861; Edwin H. Draper 1866-'70, '72-'7; James W. Snyder 1871; Marion Conklin 1878-'81; Myron Wood 1882-4, '87-'9; George W. Snyder 1885-'6; George R. Miles 1890, '94-'7; Alanson Church 1891-'3; Theodore F. Metcalf 1898; Geo. W. Brinkerhoff 1899-1902; Charles Madan 1903-'5.

**The Civic Club** was organized June 27, 1904, at the home of Mrs. G. H. Northup by Miss Harriet May Mills of Syracuse. The officers elected were Mrs. J. E. Lawrence, president; Mrs. O. M. Curtis, 1st vice-president; Mrs. E. H. Kellogg, 2d vice-president; Mary Talcott, secretary; Mrs. G. H. Northup, treasurer; Mrs. W. H. Thacker, auditor. The study of Civics has been in charge of Principals L. H. Carris and G. B. Gurley of the High school. The meetings are held fortnightly at the homes of the members. Addresses have been made before the club by Mrs. Ella Hawley Crossett, State President of Woman's Suffrage Association; Principal Gurley; Rev. J. L. Gillard; Rev. Charles R. Allison; Rev. Jennie Pitts; Rev. J. S. Nasmith; Mr. Edward T. Brown; Mr. A. C. Brink; and others. The society motto is "The

Noblest Motive is the Public Good."

#### County Clerks;

Terms of those Who have Held that Position, [Alphabetical Order]: Barber Jr., John, 1826-'31; Bixby, Abel J., 1879-'81; Cuyler, John L., 1832-'4; Chapman, Daniel, 1842-'6; Collins, Thaddeus W., 1867-'9; Cuyler, Ledyard S., 1894—(present incumbent).

Foster, Cullen, 1835-'9; Gavitt, Saxon B., 1852-'7; Gates, Alfred H., 1873-'5; Hawley, James, 1840-'1;

Lyon, Lyman, 1858-'63; Mason, Clark, 1864-'6; McGonigal, 1882-'4.

Peacock, Fred, 1891-'3; Richardson, Israel J., 1824-'5; Redfield, Albert F., 1870-'2; Sweeting, Volney H., 1876-'8; Thomas, Byron, 1885-'7; Williams, Alexander B., 1847-'51; Wells, Edward B., 1888-'90.

**Earliest Land Owners** in the Village of Wolcott:—Jonathan Melvin in 1807 purchased of the Pultenay estate lot No. 50, 500 acres; as did also Adonijah Church in 1807, lot 48, and Osgood Church in 1808, lot 49. Obadiah Adams in 1810 purchased of Mr. Melvin 40 acres of land on the east side of New Hartford street and the north side of Main street from Lake avenue to the creek. This stream is now covered by Main street. These four men were the first to open Wolcott village for settlement.

**The First Death** in the town of Wolcott after it was erected was that of a son of George Salmon.



THE W. C. T. U.

Lower Row (left to right):—Mrs. George Reed, Miss Lydia Kellogg, Miss Mary Talcott, Mrs. Henry Paddock, Mrs. Amos Nash. Upper Row—Mrs. Enos Reed, Mrs. Clark Lefevre, Mrs. Hursey, Rev. Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. James Cook.



POSTMASTER AND R. F. D. CARRIERS.

A. C. Brink, Postmaster; Lee Dowd at the left and Eugene Seymour at the right. Standing (left to right): Mr. Wicks, Thomas Curr, Wallace Phillips, Charles Plumley, Oliver Bennett. "Doc."

**The First Town Meeting** in Wolcott was held in Jonathan Melvin's grist mill in the village of Wolcott, April 3, 1810. The town officers elected were as follows:—Supervisor, Osgood Church; Clerk, Adonijah Church; Assessors, Obadiah Adams, Osgood Church and John N. Murray; Overseers of the Poor, Ezra Knapp and Jesse Matthews; Highway Commissioners, Isaac Shook, Peres Bardwell and Noah Starr; Town Viewers, Levi Wheeler and John Grandy; Overseers of Highways, Glazier Wheeler, Wm. P. Newell, James Alexander and Roger Sheldon.

1,700; Pompey Hill, Onondaga Co., 1,743; Beacon Hill, Dutchess Co., 1,685; Old Beacon, Putnam Co., 1,471; Bull Hill, Putnam Co., 1,586; Anthony's Nose, Putnam Co., 1,228; Butter Hill, Orange Co., 1,529; Crow's Nest, Orange Co., 1,418; Bear Mount, Orange Co., 1,350.

**Famous Dwarfs**—Count Borowlaski, Warsaw, 39 inches high; Tom Thumb (Charles S. Stratton) New York, 31 inches; Mrs. Tom Thumb, New York, 32 inches; Che-Mah, China, 25 inches; Lucia Zarate, Mexico, 20 inches; General Mite, New York, 21 inches.



WOLCOTT H. & L. CO. NO. 1.

Standing (left to right):—Clarence Prevost, Fred Curtis, L. W. Knapp, R. King, Jr., I. J. Foster, C. Palmer, A. Clark, W. H. Brown, N. C. Vought, F. Edwards. On the Truck (left to right):—H. King, Lawrence Prevost, L. L. Madan, Fred Milliman, John Merrill, Fred Baker, D. E. Bennett, Wm. Silliman, Mascott, George Silliman.

### Principal Sum-

mits in the State.—

Mount Marcey, Essex

Co., 5,467 feet high;

Dix Peak, Essex Co.,

5,200; Mount McIn-

tyre, Essex Co., 5,183;

Mount McMartin, Es-

sex Co., 5,000; Mount

Sandanoni, Essex Co.,

5,000; Mount Nipple-

top, Essex Co., 4,900;

Mount Whiteface, Es-

sex Co., 4,900; Mount

Pharaoh, Essex Co.,

4,500; Mount Tailor,

Hamilton Co., 4,500;

Mount Seward, Frank-

lin Co., 4,100; Mount

Emmons, Hamilton

Co., 4,000; Mount

Crain, Warren Co.,

3,000; Round Top,

Greene Co., 3,804;

High Peak, Greene Co.,

3,718; Pine Orchard,

Greene Co., 3,000;

Mount Pisgah, Dela-

ware Co., 3,400; Rock-

land Mount, Sullivan

Co., 2,400; Ripley Hill,

Onondaga Co., 1,983;

Walnut Hill, Sullivan

Co., 1,980; Mount Top-

pin, Cortland Co.,



**New Leavenworth Debaters.**—In December, 1897, a few of the High school young men conceived the idea of forming a debating society for the purpose of training its members in thinking and speaking. Shortly thereafter they met, drew up their constitution, a few by-laws, etc., and bound themselves by a solemn oath to do all in their power to make the undertaking a success. It was decided that any boy taking at least one academic study might become a member by a two-thirds vote of the society.

At once the society sprang into popularity as it has since remained. Nearly every boy connected himself therewith and very soon the leading questions of the day were being ably and eloquently discussed.

Thus the society developed and grew until 1903 when for good reasons it was discontinued for one year.

In October, 1904, it was re-organized with forty-three names on its membership roll. This has been the banner year in its history.

and Mrs. Edson Benedict deeded the society the present site of the church on Cemetery street, and also the site for parsonage. The trustees at that time were Jeremiah Sebring, Solomon Loveless, and Lansing Millington. The church edifice was erected between the years of 1860-'68. As soon as the building was roofed and enclosed it was seated temporarily and used for church purposes. Revivals were held before the completion of the building, which added materially to the strength of the society. The society had seasons of great prosperity, also many severe reverses but struggled bravely through them. The present pastor, Rev. Jennie I. Pitts, is serving the church for the fifth year, and has been successful in building up the society, and has raised funds for extensive repairs which are in progress. The building has been lowered several feet, rooms on first floor taken out, the old tower will be removed and a corner tower added. A furnace will be put in. The interior is being remodeled. The windows will be replaced by



Winsor, Photo.

NEW LEAVENWORTH DEBATING SOCIETY.

Top Row (left to right):—Willie Lynch, B. Wells, R. J. Knapp, Ralph Kellogg, Benjamin Wood, Fay Tanner, Ed. Pitts, Leaton Seeley, Ralph Weeks, George Catchpole, R. B. Gurley, John Taylor, — Seeley, Edgar Thomas, Halsey Lovejoy, Ross Tibbitts, Willie Jones, Earl Horton, Roy Calhoun, Marion Beach, — Hibbard. Middle Row (left to right):—George Van Vleck, Roy Schenck, — Shattuck, Harry Woodruff, Charles Lyttle, Ned Kellogg, Floyd Conklin, Merwin Boynton. Lower Row (left to right):—Willis Rathbun, Claude Mitchell, Leon Bidwell, Earle Brown, Porter Brockway, Clayton Seaber, Arthur Fish.

From its organization it has had the hearty support of the school principals, especially of the latter two, Mr. Carris and Mr. Gurley.

**The Methodist Protestant Church** was organized March 18, 1857, at the residence of Lansing Millington. The first trustees were E. H. Nichols, H. S. Cornwell and Lansing Millington. A class formed consisted of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Cornwell, Mr. and Mrs. Lansing Millington, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. John Cook and Walter Paddock. Rev. I. H. Hogan was first pastor. An unused Universalist church building on New Hartford street, known as "the old stone church," was rented and occupied by the society for a few years. During the winter following organization, a revival was held, which resulted in an addition of over seventy members. On March 1, 1864, Mr.

stained glass; a bell hung and the entire building will be redecorated and painted; also new furniture added. The work is expected to be completed during the present year (1905). The Ladies' Aid Society is doing efficient work in the cause. The present trustees are E. N. Brink, T. J. Reed and A. Miller; class leader, A. Miller; S. S. Supt., Edwin B. Pitts. Following is a list of pastors from organization:—J. H. Hogan, N. R. Swift, M. Prindle, Chas. Smith, E. Withey, C. W. Beardsley, J. H. Richards, H. F. Snow, A. R. Seaman, T. Dodd, L. Smith, M. L. Baker, L. J. Cooper, H. L. Bowen, A. F. Beebe, W. H. Tryon, H. Vre, H. Troop, W. McChesney, W. H. Church, T. Kiesinger, Libbie Van Horn, L. J. Reed, Jennie I. Pitts.

**The First Postmaster** in the town of Wolcott was Dr. David Arne.



Smith, Photo.

REV. MRS. JENNIE I. PITTS.

**Reminiscences** Describing the Old Mills and Olmstead's Distillery; also the Gulfs that Cut Across Two Main Streets; The Bursting of Cannon in a Crowd; White's Hotel; the Swimming Hole.

John W. Olmstead, an old resident, was born in Wolcott July 25, 1824. "Jesse Olmstead, my father," he said, "had a saw mill and distillery, the first distillery in the town, and it stood on the creek southeast of the village, one-half mile from New Hartford street on a road leading hence to the mill. I have seen the old mud sills of the dam there in the stream in recent years. Farmers brought in their grain, a bushel or half a bushel at a time and took home a jug of whiskey. There was a big copper kettle for mash and a stone arch to set it in. During cold weather my father would run through the distillery twelve bushels of grain a day. His father, Roger Olmstead, came from New Hartford, Ct., in 1810, in company with several others, including the Matthews, Merrills, Saxtons and Moores. Jesse was then 14 years old. Both grist and saw mills down the stream in the village were running when the distillery was built and furnished the lumber for building it. Logs were laid across the stream above the falls and teams crossed over what is now the mill pond, then a shallow, fordable stream. A hollow log conducted the water to the wheel in the mill. I remember well seeing the old log house on the left side of Mill street which was put up to house the men engaged by Melvin in building his mills.

#### TRUCKING WITH OXEN.

"Supplies were then brought into this section by ox teams in the winter, as

the streams in the summer were not easily fordable.

"My father sold his distillery to his brother in the spring of 1835 and moved down to the old furnace village where my uncle Uriah Seymour was then a partner in the blast furnace. A few years later he returned to the village of Wolcott and lived here. His brother moved the distillery apparatus over to Red Creek.

"I recollect the old mill standing on the site of the Rumsay mill and I remember when a boy seeing what was left of the old blast furnace in the gulf. It had been abandoned and the business taken down to Furnace village. The ore there proved worthless. It was too full of salt and they didn't know how to flux it. So they were compelled to look farther until they found a bed of good ore over near Red Creek. Uriah Seymour and Levi Hendrick when they ran the blast furnace, each put up a nice brick dwelling at Furnace village for his family. Seymour sold out to Isaac Leavenworth and went to Canada to run a blast furnace.

#### ERECTION OF EARLY STORES.

"The first store that appears in my memory was Underhil's, on the northeast corner of Main and Mill streets. He afterwards moved further up Main street. I can see the old log pump in the porch of the old Wolcott house and the horse shed that stood across the street, on the present site of Lyttle & Turpenning's store. Near the hotel were a shoemaker's shop and a cooper shop, each a story and a half high.

"Where the Northup & Johnson block stands the gulf entered Main street from the north cutting across the street where the stream flowing through it was spanned by an old wooden bridge. South of Main street this gulf formed a junction with a gulf which crossed New Hartford street, about where Sax's livery stable now stands, and in New Hartford street a bridge also spanned the stream in the bottom of the gulf.

#### PLUNGED INTO THE GULF.

"Where the Arcade building was erected on



Whitford, Photo.

[See sketch page 29.]

THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.



Main street the sidewalk stood up in the air 12 or 15 feet and was protected by a railing. About opposite that point, two ladies in a buggy were dumped from the road down into the gulf and their escape from death was miraculous. One of them held her infant in her arms, and a little girl also was in the wagon. The horse backed them off the embankment. They were found in the bottom of the heap. The babe was protected from injury in its mother's arms. The mother was bruised about the head. The wagon in some way fell so as to prevent the little girl from being injured.

"When I was 9 or 10 years old Tompkins put up a story and a half building for his dry goods store.

"Between Tompkins' and the hotel Baldwin & Gilbert next erected a two story building and Deacon Lazalere had a harness shop up stairs. Baldwin & Gilbert manufactured and sold wool and fur hats and caps. Then, next between Tompkins' store and the hat and cap store, one

a stuck hog but it proved to be more of a fright than an injury.

"My father and I ran the old White Hotel five years. We bought it from Mr. Merrill. We sold out to a woman named Beach. Millington, was one of the builders of the Hotel and he and his partner, whose name I have forgotten, ran it for a time. It was built about seventy years ago. I ran the stage line from here to Rochester about fifty years ago. I had it for two years prior to the opening of the railroad through Clyde. When that was built I sold out. The line was run three or four years after that but did not pay, as the railroad took the business.

"Down the creek forty to sixty rods below the site of the old blast furnace was a fulling mill where they made rolls of cloth for the country around here. I went there when a boy to get rolls made from the wool my folks left there. The creek was dammed at that point which, sheltered by the trees, made a famous swimming hole, where us boys spent many pleasant hours.



OLD LEAVENWORTH INSTITUTE.

named Low built a long frame building for a shoe shop which stood a number of years.

#### FOURTH OF JULY EXPLOSION.

"I remember the bursting of two cannon in this village on a fourth of July occasion. I was marshal of the parade on that day and was riding by the Presbyterian church (the old frame structure near the arcade) when one of the cannon exploded, and a piece sailed over my head into the crowd in front of the church. It struck an old pump and drove it down into the well, first landing upon a scaffold—the building was then being erected—and falling on to the pump. No one in the crowd was hit. The cannon stood in the road pointing into the gulf. Later in the day they fired another cannon up on the green and that exploded. A piece went through the Baptist church over the pulpit. Another piece struck the legs of Leavenworth's horse glancing so as to injure them severely though not to cut them in two. Another splinter grazed a man's throat cutting a small gash and he ran into the street crying 'My throat is cut.' He bled like

This fulling mill was moved up to the site of what was afterwards the lower grist mill that is now abandoned."

**First Grand Jurors** Empaneled in Wayne County.—John Adams, Abner F. Lakey, Wm. D. Wiley, John Barber, Jr., Lemuel Spear, David Warner, Ephraim Green, Wm. Voorhees, James Mason, Abel Wyman, David Russell, Cephas Moody, Stephen Sherman, Wm. Wilson, Wm. Plank, Alexander Beard, Jacob Butterfield, Daniel Chapman, Jeremiah H. Pierce, Freeman Rogers, Newell Taft, Pliney Foster and Joseph Lane.

**Peru County**—An agitation for the erection of the county to be called Peru was started at a special meeting held June 11, 1814 and was then abandoned. The proposition was to include in the new county the towns of Wolcott, Galen, Savannah, Sterling, now in Cayuga county, Cato and Hannibal now in Oswego county and Lysander, now in Onondaga county.



G. H. NORTHUP.

**Gardner H. Northup**, president of the Board of Trade of Wolcott, a large buyer and shipper of fruit and an extensive lumber dealer, has been a resident and active business man in Wolcott since 1872. And Wolcott, as well as Mr. Northup, has profited through his coming here, for while he like all other successful business men has been accumulating property, the village has been acquiring new industries that distribute considerable sums of money to its merchants and for labor, because it was inspired to seek new enterprises through the efforts of Mr. Northup. To promote the public welfare in Wolcott, as in any other place, requires a leader—a man who can give the time to it and in whose judgment the community has confidence. It

seems to be a pleasure to Mr. Northup to do this. No history of Wolcott could explain how the village came to have a canning factory, a creamery, a pickle factory and a National Bank without reference to the part Mr. Northup has taken in getting them here. Desiring to see the village grow in wealth and population and realizing that such could be accomplished only through the united action of the business men, Mr. Northup accepted the presidency of the Board of Trade and has given the duties of that position close attention. His aim and habits are constructive and his disposition is to help others. He has established new business for himself and has erected business blocks and residences besides otherwise investing prudently in safe enterprises that have greatly increased the volume of money circulated in Wolcott and the surrounding country.

Mr. Northup was born in Phoenix, Oswego Co., N. Y., 52 or 53 years ago, the son of Gardner H. Northup whose family was one of those that settled in that section at an early day. Mr. Northup, senior, was one of the proprietors of the earliest large saw mill on the west side of the river, for some years, in company with John Wall. He was a prominent business man and member of the Congregational church of that village, and through his marriage and his business relations he was closely connected with the influential and wealthy Phoenix families of over a half century ago.

About the time his son, Gardner H. Northup, the subject of this sketch, attained his majority there was preaching in the Congregational church at Phoenix a clergyman of high standing, the Rev. Edgar Perkins. His two daughters today preside over two fine homes in Wolcott. They are Mrs. Gardner H. Northup and Mrs. Charles Thomas. Young Northup having come to Wolcott in the fall of 1872 and started in business here, returned to Phoenix the following year, and on October 1, 1873, married Marion P. Perkins. They have one daughter, Ruth. Their home on Main street is one of the prettiest in



Smith, Photo.

G. H. NORTHUP'S RESIDENCE.



the village—the old Leavenworth homestead which Mr. Northup has improved at considerable expense.

Mr. Northup on coming to Wolcott established a lumber business on the west side of Lake avenue, near the subway, and erected the house which is now E. H. Reed's residence. Subsequently he bought the lumber yard of Cornwell & Strait where since then he has carried on the business. On January 1, 1899, he took into partnership Clayton Johnson, the firm now being known as the G. H. Northup Lumber Co. At one time Mr. Northup was engaged in the wholesale of lumber and shingles with F. A. Prevost. Nearly a quarter of a century ago he established a lumber business at Sodus where for six years he was a partner with the Rev. Edgar Perkins. At Cato he also started the same business and was there a partner of C. S. Morrill to whom he sold out the yard at that place.

About 1886 Fletcher S. Johnson became Mr. Northup's partner in handling fruit and together they made a marked success, becoming, during the time they were together, the most wide-

**Reminiscences** of Stage Coach Days in the '40's: Perils of the Drivers: Incidents of the Old White Hotel:—

Amos Nash, an old driver on the Butterfield stage line, is now seventy-eight years old. When a lad, in 1846, he came to Wolcott from Williamson. He married Mary E., the eldest daughter of Nelson W. Moore, who lived to be ninety-four years old and who from 1860 to '67 ran the grist mill here. Moore's business contemporaries were Jedediah Wilder, Roswell Benedict and Messrs. Galloway and Churchill who at different times owned carding machines in Wolcott. For fifty-three years Amos Nash and his wife have lived in their present home.

"After coming to Wolcott," said Mr. Nash, "I was employed on the J. P. Butterfield stage line running through Wolcott between Oswego and Rochester. Butterfield was a Wolcott man who carried on the old Chester Dutton farm and ran the White Hotel east of the creek, which was the stopping place for the stages and where they changed horses. His livery barns were on the present site of the Metcalf stables.



G. H. NORTHUP'S FRUIT WAREHOUSE.

ly known firm in that line in the state. [See F. S. Johnson's sketch.] They operated a number of evaporators and were in fact the pioneers engaged in handling evaporated fruit, especially apples, to any considerable extent. At one time they handled green as well as evaporated apples and their business was second to none other of the kind in New York. In 1890 they erected the large warehouse where Mr. Northup still continues the fruit business. The big steel front business block occupied by Thacker Bros. & Co., and Mrs. Knapp, the milliner, was erected by them about ten years ago.

Mr. Northup individually constructed other business blocks, notably the Arcade Block. He is a director in the First National Bank of Wolcott. Among those who rendered the most valuable assistance in securing the new postoffice was Mr. Northup.

A trustee and elder in the Presbyterian church society he is one of its most active supporters, and had much to do with securing the erection of the new building for that society. He is well informed, and has traveled considerably.

#### ROUTE OF COACHES.

"During seasons of bad roads the coaches were drawn by four horses, coming up from Oswego and back the next day. Stopping at the White Hotel to change horses they passed on down Mill street into Main and then on out of the village along the west road over to Port Glasgow, now Resort, which we then call the Bay Bridge. There were two hotels there, one conducted by a man named Ward, which was burned. From there the line ran along west to Irondequoit and into Rochester. The first relay after leaving Oswego was Fair Haven; then Wolcott, Sodus and Webster. Sometimes, on good roads, we drove on to Williamson or Alton for change of teams. The coaches were the heavy Concord thoroughbrace style swinging on straps and carrying from twelve to sixteen passengers. The nearest railroad to Wolcott was the Auburn road. The last owners of the coach line were J. W. Olmstead and James Hyde.

#### LIFTING COACHES OUT OF MUD.

"To get through with the coaches at times

was a real hardship and some peril. I was located in Wolcott but often went out as a driver. In the winter the coaches were frequently stalled in snow. In the spring and fall after the hard rains the heavy coach would get mired in mud. Then the passengers were called upon to turn out, get a fence rail and help pry the coach out. After the close of navigation on the lakes a great many sailors took passage on the coaches at Oswego for their homes in the country. It pleased the drivers to call upon them to lend a hand in lifting the coach out of the mud, for it took the conceit out of them.

#### ON A FLOAT BRIDGE AT NIGHT.

"A coach from Oswego delayed all day on the road has called me out to hitch up and drive it through when I would be all night on the road. The great peril of that trip was in crossing the float bridge at Port Glasgow on planks supported by stringers floating on the water, the wind blowing a gale, the coach lights all out and not to be lighted in the wind and the horses and

in the town, the first at Wolcott, the second at Red Creek and the wind-up at Thompson's Corners. On one election day that I recollect a white man this side of the creek got his friends together, inviting them to go over to White Hotel and see him 'pick a nigger,' an old colored man who hung around there a great deal. The party managed to start the quarrel after calling all up for drinks, and the white man was soon busy with the nigger. In a brief round the nigger laid the white man on the floor in a heap and then took to the roads leading south, never again being seen in this section. He no doubt thought he had killed his opponent.

#### UNCLE GILBERT WALKED 'TIL MORNING

"At a gathering in the hotel of the old cronies one night Uncle John Gilbert made the remark that he guessed he would 'wallow home in the mud' across the creek. One of the party said that he would not take the walk in the darkness and mud for a dollar.

"I'll tell you what I'll do," replied Uncle



G. H. NORTHUP LUMBER CO.

vehicle with difficulty guided across the dangerous bridge where every foot of progress was sloshy-ty-slosh, sloshy-ty-slosh in Egyptian darkness with no rail on the side of the bridge to keep us from getting off.

#### "PICKING A NIGGER."

"The old White Hotel with its fireplace, when the nights out-of-doors were dreary, was a favorite gathering place for tavern loungers, passengers waiting for coaches and others who had stepped in to get the news of the day. My recollection of its early landlords embraces Hiram Beach who followed Butterfield, (some years later) and next, Lucius Forbes, then A. A. Stinard and Aaron Norris. Long before them was an Englishman, Uncle Tommy Forbes. Butterfield, I believe, sold the house to Chauncey Allport, but for some time after retained the stage line. There were several changes in the hotel. Among others who ran it were Riley Merrill, Willis King, Reuben Brink and Lewis Hendrick.

"In those times we had three days' elections

John. 'For a sixpence a trip I'll walk over home and back as often as I can go between now and morning.'

"The party thinking they would have some fun in bluffing him agreed to make up the purse on that basis for all the trips he would make. The saw mill down on the stream was running nights and some of them gathered there to see that he passed the mill going both ways while others remained at the hotel to see that he reached that point. He trudged back and forth through mud and darkness until daylight. When he passed the mill he called out to let them know of it. When the party scattered for their homes in the morning they raised among them a purse of a dollar or ten shillings. Uncle John Southwick was another who crossed the creek to spend his evenings at White Hotel. Trying to put together a stovepipe one night up stairs at home he fell over a barrel (worth a shilling) and busted in the head. 'What's to pay up there?' cried his wife from the foot of the stairs, alarmed by the racket overhead. 'A shilling,' was the rejoinder.





Smith, Photo.

ONTARIO SHORE, NO. 495, I. O. O. F.

Lower Row (left to right):—Charles Walker, Floyd Meeker, — Lyle, C. W. Smith, Guy Kellogg, Ed. Klinck., Middle Row: Dr. D. B. Horton, Albert Sabin, James Phillips, — Conner, Ira J. Foster, J. A. Murphy, E. J. Peck. Upper Row:—Charles Plumley, Peter Monihan, R. H. Kelley, Manly Cole, B. T. Moore, S. M. Bowers, L. W. Knapp, Robert King.

"The toll gate at Bay Bridge was kept by Miss Bouncer, who priding herself on her shrewdness tempted the boys occasionally to attempt to get the best of the toll. Isaac Johnson with a large box in his wagon passed by declaring that he was at the head of a show and had a wild animal in the box. He had a boon companion out of sight who while he was parleying with Miss Bouncer kept up such a clawing and growling that she became alarmed and passed them through.

"Ten years after coming to Wolcott I left stage coaching and from 1856 to 1875 dealt in eggs, shipping from 7,000 to 10,000 barrels in a year. I had egg vats for liming eggs on Mill street, each of which held from 80,000 to 100,000 dozen, that were destroyed in the fire of 1876."

**Ontario Shore** Lodge No. 495, I. O. O. F., was instituted Feb. 9, 1882. The old lodge instituted many years ago was burned out in the fire of 1871, and lost all of its documents and books. The lodge since then has grown steadily. The officers are: N. G., R. H. Bailey; V. G., Wm. Brown; R. S., C. W. Smith; P. S., E. J. Peck; S. P. G. S., S. M. Bowers; R. S. N. G., Dr. D. B. Horton; L. S. N. G., A. L. Loveless; R. S. V. G., Charles Webb; L. S. V. G., Irving McIn-

tyre; R. S. S., Peter Monihan; L. S. S., J. F. Hutchins; Warden, Charles Plumley; Conductor, Jesse Olmstead; Chaplain, I. L. Sherwood; I. G. Wm. Loveless; O. G., M. W. Cole.

**Evergreen** Rebekah Lodge No. 145, I. O. O. F., was organized in March, 1893, and was the first Rebekah lodge in the county. The first officers were: Noble Grand, Mrs. J. E. Lawrence; Vice Grand, Mrs. James G. Brewster; Secretary, Miss Martha Cornwell; Financial Secretary, Mrs. E. J. Peck; Treasurer, Mrs. William Brown.

**Woman's Guild**, St. Stephen Episcopal Church was organized Oct. 15, 1902, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. A. B. Sabin; Secretary, Mrs. R. L. Hamilton; Treasurer, Mrs. Fred Knapp. The Guild is a body of eleven zealous workers in the church, who during its three years of industry have raised \$500 towards the building fund and for other purposes in the interest of the church.

**Early Blacksmith.**—Hiram Bement, from Vermont, purchased sixty acres on the east side of Mill Creek, north of the Oswego road. He was one of the first blacksmiths at Wolcott.



Winsor, Photo.

EVERGREEN REBEKAHS, NO. 145, I. O. O. F.

Top Row (left to right):—C. Walker, W. Brown, E. Robbins, S. Bowers, C. Plumley, C. E. Webb, Miss Schaeffer, Mrs. Robbins, Mrs. Schattner, Laura Vanderpool, Mabel Medan. Lower Row—Edith Bort, Mrs. W. Brown, Pearl Olmstead, Mrs. C. Webb, Jennie Brown, Mrs. Plumley.



WOLCOTT GRANGE, NO. 348, P. OF H.  
Smith, Photo

Next Largest in the World

WOLCOTT GRANGE, NO. 348, P. OF H., HAS ABOUT 800 MEMBERS.

Wolcott Grange, No 348, P. of H., was organized Sept. 8, 1875, with thirty-one charter members and Capt. Jas. H. Hyde as Master. Politics has been carefully kept out of the society, and the one aim has always been the study for the advancement and mutual help in the best methods of farming and fruit growing.

The Chapter has steadily grown until now it has the distinction of being next to the largest in the world, having a membership of over 800 and representing about 500 families. The present Master is Mr. Forest R. Pierson.

The Chapter has never taken up the co-operative trade scheme, but has always loyally supported the mercantile interests of the town, and has by its system of education in farming contributed much to the welfare of the village.

OFFICERS, 1905.

- Forest R. Pierson, Master.  
Henry R. Paddock, Overseer.  
J. Byron Smith, Lecturer.  
Mrs. Wm. Zopher McQueen, Steward.  
Frank L. Watson, Ass't Steward.  
Mrs. M. G. Wood, Lady Ass't Steward.  
Mrs. Irving Scott, Chaplain.  
A. J. Fox, Treasurer.  
Mrs. J. H. L. Roe, Secretary.  
J. H. L. Roe, Ass't and Financial Secretary.  
Ernest Mathews, Gate Keeper.  
Mrs. Warren Seager, Ceres.  
Mrs. Anna Kelley, Pomona.  
Mrs. Sarah A. Jones, Flora.  
Mrs. Ella Hibbard, Chorister.  
Mrs. I. Y. Upham, Pianist.

Trustees—John O. Wadsworth, term expires 1905; Mason G. Wood, term expires 1906; Mrs. Jas. H. Brewster, term expires 1907.

Executive Committee—A. B. Thacker, term expires 1905; I. Y. Upham, term expires 1906; Robert J. Kelley, term expires 1907.

Finance Committee—H. R. Paddock, J. Byron Smith, Frank L. Watson.

Director Fire Insurance—C. E. Fitch, Wolcott, N. Y.

Our Motto is: "Malice towards none and charity for all."

THE CHARTER MEMBERS.

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jas. H. Hyde,          | J. S. Tyrrell,            |
| Mrs. Jas. H. Hyde,     | Mrs. J. S. Tyrrell,       |
| J. H. L. Roe,          | J. L. Phillips, deceased, |
| Mrs. J. H. L. Roe,     | Mrs. J. L. Phillips,      |
| A. B. Thacker,         | John Paylor,              |
| Mrs. A. B. Thacker,    | Mrs. John Paylor,         |
| T. J. Waldorf,         | Samuel S. Wells,          |
| Mrs. T. J. Waldorf,    | Mrs. S. S. Wells, dec.,   |
| A. M. Wise, dec.,      | Henry Dowd, dec.,         |
| Mrs. A. M. Wise, dec., | Mrs. Henry Dowd, dec.,    |
| E. H. Reed,            | Allen H. Fitch sr., dec., |
| Mrs. E. H. Reed,       | H. W. Hendrick,           |
| Hezekiah Easton,       | W. J. Smith,              |
| Mrs. Hezekiah Easton,  | E. N. Plank,              |
| John Wilson, dec.,     | Daniel Conger, dec.       |
| Lizzie B. Wilson,      |                           |

KEY.—Lower Row (left to right)—  
Wm. Pitts, Irving Scott, D. Harper, Miss  
Harper, A. B. Thacker, W. Peor, Mrs.  
Richardson, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Seager,  
Mrs. Andrew Kelley, Mrs. Mason Wood,  
Mrs. DeForest Pierson, Mrs. George  
Watson, Mrs. Ella Douglass, Olive  
Lamb, Mrs. Hiram McQueen, Second  
Row—Mrs. Nellie Jones, Mrs. Cira  
Rowell, Mrs. Lovina Brewster, H. R.  
Paddock, Mrs. Irving Scott, F. R. Pion-  
son, J. B. Smith, Andrew Fox, Mrs. Jo-  
son, Mrs. Isaac Otis, Frank Belknap,  
Mrs. Ada Belknap, Third Row: Mrs.  
Orestus Vaughn, Mrs. L. Worden, Mrs.  
John McDormer, Mrs. A. B. Thacker,  
Mrs. Egnor, Mrs. W. Peor, Mrs. Ida  
Cassad, Mrs. Martha Gibbs, J. S. Tyrrell,  
Sarah Madan, Mrs. George Dickinson,  
Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Sarah Wadsworth,  
Nath Wood, Henry Wadsworth, Mrs.  
Nettie Clapper, Mrs. Anna Garner, Mrs.  
H. R. Paddock, Upper Row: Mrs.  
Meeker, Wm. Reynolds, Mr. Vaughn,  
Spencer Sears, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Win-  
chell, Mrs. J. S. Tyrrell, Mrs. Nancy  
Frost, Mrs. Martha Devoe, Mrs. E.  
Clark, Mrs. Hannah Hawley, Mrs. Mitch-  
ell, Mrs. C. Hurter, Mrs. Wm. Easton,  
Mrs. Mary Andrus, Mrs. Fitch, Mrs.  
Reynolds, Miss Edna Tyrrell, Martha  
Russell.



PAST MASTERS.

Jas. H. Hyde, 1875.  
J. H. L. Roe, 1876-78.  
J. H. Hyde, 1879.  
J. S. Tyrrell, 1880.  
J. H. L. Roe, 1881-89.  
J. S. Tyrrell, 1890-1891.  
J. O. Wadsworth, 1892-1893.  
C. H. Van Heusen, deceased, 1894, (1 month).  
Geo. A. Slaght, 1894-1896.  
J. Byron Smith, 1897-1898.  
Mrs. A. B. Thacker, 1899-1900.  
H. R. Paddock, 1901.  
Dan'l Robertson, 1902,

SECRETARIES.

J. H. L. Roe, 1885.  
E. H. Reed, 1876-79.  
J. H. L. Roe, 1880.  
E. H. Reed, 1881.  
Mrs. J. H. L. Roe, 1882-1904.

WOLCOTT A SMART VILLAGE.

The village of Wolcott is one of the smartest, cleanest and most enterprising towns in this part of the state. This is true both in its resident and business features.

Such are the features that attract the notice of the stranger at the first glance. The thrift and enterprise of the village may be attributed largely to the following conditions:

The business and property of the village is managed and owned to a large extent by home capital;

The village is the trade center of a very wide and prosperous section of country;

It is the shipping center of a large fruit business;

Its business men are up to date and pushing and its citizens as a whole are well-to-do and prosperous.

Wolcott is favored with one of the most complete electric light plants of to-day. It is conducted in an enterprising business way and furnishes both arc and incandescent lights to a large patronage.

An evidence of the prosperity and thrift of the farming community from which Wolcott largely draws its retail trade is the Wolcott Grange, P. of H., No. 348. This organization of farmers, next to the largest Grange in the United States, has long been considered an index of the character and enterprise of the farming sections around Wolcott, where the most prosperous and intelligent farming class produces from fertile and highly cultivated farms large and profitable crops. Wolcott is justly proud of her chapter of the Grange.

Many places near Wolcott are historic, for it was at Sodus Bay that the earliest landed proprietor, Col. Charles Williamson, conceived the enterprise of an important lake harbor and great shipping point, and even began the erection of a large town. Here in the war of 1812 the British planned an invasion of the American colonies

and appeared with the enormous flotilla of 90 sail bristling with guns and crowded with veteran troops. The courage of a small militia and a few partisan bands swarming around the landing when the British attempted a foothold and annoying them as vigorously as a swarm of wasps drove them off.

“The Lake Shore News” was started in 1874 by the late Wm. H. Thomas.

In 1901 the growth and increased business of the town induced Mr. Chas. M. Delling to open another printing office and since that time the “Wolcott Courier” has been issued from this office. It has a large circulation and keeps the village and surrounding country thoroughly in touch with each other.

**Reminiscences;** The old Apple Orchard is now a Section of Pretty Village Homes; Old School Masters at the Red Schoolhouse:

John Boylan, born in 1825, is another old resident of Wolcott—coming here with his parents from Alloway, near Lyons, when he was eleven years old—in 1836.

“We went to live across the creek in a home near the cobblestone house. We afterwards lived in the Wolcott house,” said Mr. Boylan.

“The earliest business man of Wolcott I recollect was Levi Smith, the grocer.

“John Gilbert was the earliest landlord at the old White hotel that I recall.

FLOGGED THEN CURED THE WOUNDS.

“I went to school in the red schoolhouse on New Hartford street and I well remember one of our teachers, Pettit, an old sea captain, who knew how to use the rod cheerfully as well as effectually, so that the youngster whom he flogged could remember the flogging. Marks always followed the blows, but Pettit kept a bottle of some sort of cordial in his desk, from which he poured on to the affected parts to prevent them from becoming scarred. Other teachers in that school that come to my mind were Harlow Hyde—we called him ‘Squire—who was rather easy with the boys, and Dr. McCarthy who on the contrary was stern and also used the rod.

“Some of the merchants in the village I recall were N. W. Tompkins, Uncle Ben Underhill and M. P. Foote. I clerked for Foote two years.

“My father, Aaron Boylan, kept the Wolcott House twenty-five years. He bought it of E. Y. Munson. After father’s death my brother and I ran it about two years and in 1860 or ‘61 sold out to Hiram Beach.

“I remember the old apple orchard about where we now stand when it belonged to David Arne. It covered all of these grounds, my place here on Main street, and ran back to Orchard street. The property was also owned by M. P. Foote, who sold to James Wright and he cut it up into village lots. The tract extended west from Roe’s present residence to the railroad tracks. Wright street was named after James Wright of whom I have spoken. The street running down to the depot, opened up through the orchard is called Orchard street.”

**American Wars.**—King Phillip’s, 1675; King William’s, 1689; Dutch, 1693; Queen Anne’s, 1744, French and Indian, 1755; Revolution, April





DR. T. S. FISH.

1775 (Lexington fight) to Jan. 20, 1883 (treaty at Paris) 368,410 men in service; Northwest Indian wars, Sept. 19, 1790, extending five years, 8,983 men; French war, July 9, 1798, lasting two years, 4,593 men; Tripoli, June 10, 1801, 4 years, 3,320 men; Creek Indian, July 27, 1813, 1 year, 13,781 men; Great Britain, June 18, 1812, 2 years, 8 months, 576,622 men; Seminole Indian, Nov. 20, 1817, 1 year, 7,911 men; Black Hawk Indian, April 20, 1831, 1 year, 6 months, 6,465 men; Cherokee Indian, 1836, 1 year, 9,494 men; Creek Indian, May 5, 1836, 1 year, 5 months, 13,418 men; Florida Indian, Dec. 23, 1835, 8 years, 41,122 men; Aroostook Indian, 1838, 1 year, 1,500 men; Mexican, April 14, 1846, 2 years, 3 months, 101,282 men; Apache, Navajo and Utah Indian, 1849, 6 years, 2,501 men; Seminole Indian, 1856, 2 years, 2,687 men; Civil war, April 12, 1861, 4 years, 2,772,408 men—about 800,000 confederate troops.

**Dr. Timothy S. Fish** was a distinguished and successful practicing physician during a period of twenty-five years and at the same time was engaged in the drug trade. Having partners to look after the store, he was able to give his whole time to his practice. It was a profession of love as well as pride with him, for he enjoyed doing good. He was a man of strong convictions possessing energy and enterprise; a Christian with a broad, liberal view of life, closely attached to his family and loyal to his friends. Public spirited he took a deep interest in the advancement of the community. In March, 1889, he was elected a trustee of the village and held the office until March, 1893. He was physician for the Board of Health. Elected trustee of Leavenworth Institute August 3, 1898, he served faithfully and with ability the cause of public education in which he was interested until his death. He was a member of the Methodist church and president of the Board of Trustees at his death. He was a member of the Masonic order, the G. A. R., and was post surgeon, and served as examining surgeon for the Maccabees.

Dr. Fish was born in the town of Williamson Sept. 10, 1849. Brought up on a farm in childhood he was still a youth when he left home, enlisting in the armies that battled for the Union when fifteen years old, Aug. 31, 1864. That he was under age attracted the attention of the officers who gave him an honorable discharge from the service Nov. 19, 1864, with a surgeon's certificate of disability based on his age. On his return home he re-entered school and was graduated at the Marion Collegiate Institute June 29, 1870. Then he began the study of medicine for which he proved so well fitted and on May 5, 1873, was graduated at the Detroit College of Medicine. That same year he came to Wolcott and engaged in the drug business on Mill street in the firm of Fish & Munn. The latter sold out to E. J. Peck and when in 1876 the store was burned the firm was Fish & Peck.

Then it was that Dr. Fish directed his entire attention to the practice of his profession although he had a partnership interest in the drug business to the time of his death, August 9, 1901. In 1887 he organized the firm of Colvin, Fish & Moore, which located where Lytle &



Smith, Photo.

LAKE AVENUE, LOOKING NORTH.



Smith, Photo.

LEAVENWORTH BASE BALL TEAM.

Standing (at right)—R. B. Gurley, manager; (at left)—Arthur L. Fish, assistant manager. Top Row (left to right)—Edwin Pitts, r. f.; Willis Rathbun, 2 b.; G. Porter Brockway, 3 b.; Roy Cahoon, sub. Lower Row—Marion Beach, 1 b.; Leon Hibbard, s. s.; Wm. Lynch, l. f.; Edgar H. Thomas, p. and captain; Earll W. Brown, c.; Bordner Newberry, c. f. Mascott—Asel Foster.

Turpenning are now. In 1896 the firm of Fish & Dusenberry was formed in the store now occupied by Fish & Waldorf. Dr. Fish and J. R. Waldorf became partners in May, 1900, and continued together until the doctor died, after which the estate has continued its interest in the business represented in the store by Dr. Fish's eldest daughter, Miss Fannie L. Fish, who is an educated pharmacist.

After the fire on Mill street, at the time the doctor began active practice, he resumed his medical studies and took a post-graduate course at Bellevue college, New York city, where he matriculated Oct. 2, 1878. A few years later, in

1884, he took a three months' course in a London hospital.

Dr. Fish on September 25, 1873, married Sarah Rogers of Marion. Their daughters are Fannie L., Annie R., (Mrs Charles Hawley) of Red Creek and Bessie A. Fish. The son is Arthur L. Fish.

**Reminiscences** of Lawson Matthews who Describes the Visit to Wolcott of a Party of Canadian Raiders; Bear and Deer Shooting; Obadiah Adams, and School Children:—

"My father, Jesse Matthews, came from New Hartford, Ct., in 1809 and built a log house south



Smith, Photo.

WOLCOTT HOSE CO.

Lower Row:—Willie O'mstead, John Waldorf, E. B. Dowd George Reed, Fred Bevier, George Roe, Prof. R. B. Gurley, R. H. Kelley. Upper Row:—Charles Pitts, W. Maie, C. Trickler, H. Douglass, John Fitzsimmons, John Creque, Charles Wright, H. W. Day, A. Jourdan, Fred King, Charles Graves.



of my present home. The frame house where the log house was built was erected in 1832. Lucius Hubbard, my wife's father, Abijah Moore and others came with him. The next year they brought their families," said Lawson Matthews, who was born in that log house in 1822 and is now 83 years old and in very poor health.

"I can remember," continued he, "the log road—logs laid side by side to keep teams from miring in the swamp—that led through New Hartford street into the village. I can recollect attending school in the red school house (now the site of the engine house) when about 6 years old, and up to the time I was 13. I remember Obadiah Adams who was keeping the hotel across the street. One day when the scholars were coming out at noon he stood in the street across the road with a basket. 'Pig! Pig! Pig!' he called out, and then showed the children his basket full of the big, juicy, English cherries. Knowing what it meant they ran across the road like a flock of frightened sheep and the half bushel of cherries, after a lot of scrambling and

game. Nelson Moore and his brother shot 50 black squirrel in two hours in the swamp below our meadow. Foxes, too, were in great plenty. Borden Booth could tell many fox stories for he caught quite a number.

#### PLOWING SNOW WITH OXEN.

"Early roads were hard to get over in the winter with the snow that we have. I have in mind starting from Wolcott to break roads and before getting to Whiskey Hill, three miles, having eight or ten yoke of oxen attached to the plow. Our daddies in those days used oxen to break land and do all their farm work. Mine bought 150 acres of the Pultney estate paying \$6 an acre. There was a good deal of swamp and woods, and black snakes were numerous. Many black snakes have been caught at the falls [in the village]. Father was supervisor in 1816 and was justice of the peace a long time. He died in 1822. Mother lived to be 93 years old. I still keep the old account book which my father then used.

"I remember the iron ore bed over near Red Creek where teams loaded up and brought the



Smith, Photo.

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. PAUL; M. E. CHURCH.

Lower Row (left to right):—Elihu Rogers, Willis Rathbun, Earle Brown, Leon Hibbard, Frank Loveless. Second Row:—Delmer Bennett, Charles Rice, Clarence Johnson, Rev. J. L. Gillard, C. J. Armstrong, Wm. Church. Upper Row:—W. U. Jenkins, H. W. Day, W. R. Paddock, H. L. Rumsay, Charles Walker, I. L. Sherwood, Wm. Clapper.

clawing by the children, was quickly distributed among them.

#### MENAGERIES IN HOTEL BARN.

"In the barn back of the hotel I have seen monkeys and bears placed on exhibition, the public being charged admission. John Grandy once secured two live fawns up near the lake which were kept in an enclosure back of the hotel—I don't know how long. Their capture was easy on account of the deep snow. It was common in those days to see deer run through the fields or across the road hereabouts. I have seen eight or ten in a string. Horton Moore shot the last deer I recall having seen about here. His dogs chased it through the village, and the deer took to the mill pond.

#### BEAR AND FOX SHOOTING.

"One named Hancock shot a bear near Furnace village [a mile north of Wolcott village]. I have known bears to come out of the woods in this part of the town and lug off a hog weighing over a hundred pounds. Bears were by no means scarce. And there was plenty of other

iron over to the blast furnace. Twenty feet of dirt was taken off to uncover the bed which proved to be 2½ feet thick.

"George Arne built the Ladue house and his brother built the plank road. Hamilton put up the toll gate.

#### CANADIAN RAIDERS AT WOLCOTT.

"The island in the creek above the falls is in my mind connected with the scene of the encampment of a party of men on their way to raid Canada. I think I was fourteen years old, which would make the year when the raiders came to Wolcott, 1836. My memory is impressed with the incident. I can see them marching into the village welcomed here by the firing of a cannon in the street. My brother, Augustus, and Daniel Reed loaded the gun and Crippen touched it off. The gun busted. A splinter hurt Crippen's legs. The windows in Tompkins' store (now the Wells market) were broken. I stood near a woodpile next the Baptist church, in which a piece of the cannon struck. The raiders marched over to the island and encamped there.



I don't remember how long they staid. I think it was more than a day. They were on their way from Niagara Falls and were going to capture Canada. Two years after that two other cannon that were being fired on the island busted."

**Reminiscences;** The Box Pews in the Old Presbyterian Church; Early Land Owners:—

Among the well known of the early Presbyterian families was that of William Dutton. Mrs. Dutton, eighty-four years old last January, lives in the house built by Osgood Church with the family of her daughter, Mrs. Hovey. They bought the place of Benjamin Underhill and moved there in the spring of 1851. "At that time between here and the village," said Mrs. Dutton, "there was only one house before reaching Dr. Watkins' present residence, the old Butterfield home. From Mrs. F. S. Johnson's house to the railroad, north of Main street, was an orchard belonging to M. P. Foote.

"We raised principally barley and took it to Clyde and we traded in Wolcott at Underhill's, afterwards Smith's, where W. D. Campbell's store is now.

"I remember the old box pews in the old Presbyterian church with doors to them. Mrs. Elisha Leavenworth was a singer in the church. I recall Jedediah Wilder with his family gathered around their square lunch basket at church. We then carried lunches and attended two services.

"When we took this place Jedediah Wilder's farm joined us on the west and included the present Alfred Markle farm. Mr. Paddock had the farm across the road from us, now belonging to the Russell estate, and lived in the old house standing down in the orchard. On the east of us was Mr. Guile's farm and to the north-west Deacon Wells'."

**Reminiscences;** The Village in 1840; Two Stores, a Shop or Two and a Swamp in Main Street Described; Incidents on the Removal of Old Burial Grounds:—

"There were only two stores on the north side of Main street when I first came to Wolcott. Mr. Foote had one near the corner at this end of the street [Mill street corner] and Underhill had the other up next to where Roe's bank is now. There was a little bit of a building next to Foote's store used for a tin shop. I don't remember who had it. Above that was another small building, Ruth Smith's millinery store. The rest was open space and a board walk ran along there. Across the street from Underhill's was the hotel and below that were one or two buildings in which there was a hat and cap and another shop or two. All but the Gilbert building and that next to it in this picture [looking over the view on page 5] were built after I came here."

The speaker was Mrs. Loduskey Simpson who will be seventy-nine years old in August, 1905, and who came to Wolcott when 14 years old—in 1841. She is smart and speaks as though her recollection is clear.

THE SWAMP IN MAIN STREET.

"My father, Lamson Burch," she continued, "was a carpenter and Dr. Arne got him to come

here to do some work for him. Pa built a barn on the street below here [Jefferson] which was said to be the best barn in town. We first lived on the Port Bay road, and afterwards moved into the village. I went to school across from the hotel. Just beyond the school house the street was crossed by a drain. Where the churches are now, and where Bert Thacker and Mr. Northup live, was a swamp and it was drained across the street back of the hotel [New Hartford street] into the stream below in the gulf. This swamp was sometimes so wet that when we went up Main street we got over by walking on a rail fence. Along where those nice houses and lawns are, on Main street, was a rail fence on each side of the road. The swamp ran through to the spring on Lake avenue. All of the fine lawns at Mr. Thacker's and Mr. Northup's and on Lake avenue was then a swamp grown with willows and other kinds of swamp timber and berry bushes.

THE OLD APPLE ORCHARDS.

"Back of this swamp extending from back of the spring over toward the railroad was a large orchard. Right here, across the street what is now Mr. Graves' house, was a dwelling that stood in the midst of another orchard and this orchard ran along the south side of Main street down to the gulf. They cut down some of this orchard when they built the second Presbyterian church [second structure, near the arcade]. We used to have Sunday school picnics in that orchard back of the church.

DR. ARNE'S BARN.

"I remember the old house on the hill which they called the Black House where Dr. Arne lived. His barns were across the street next to the Presbyterian church, where Dr. Watkins lives. Dr. Arne was always having work done on his barns. Dr. Draper bought that place and tore down the church and built his house.

"On Lake avenue when we came here Dr. Johnson lived where Mrs. Creque does now. Just beyond was an old house and there was no other house on Lake avenue until you reached the spring. I don't remember who lived there but B. A. Merrill lived across the street.

JOHN GRANDY'S DISCOVERY.

"The first person buried in the old cemetery was Mr. Ladue's mother. My father was the second. I have heard tell of the removal of the bodies from the cemetery up here back of the old Methodist church [on East Main street]. John Grandy took them up and they were buried back of the hotel, where they started a cemetery, where Winchell's house and barn are now. I have heard John Grandy tell that he took up an infant's coffin which was so light he went home and got the screw driver and opened it; and he found it empty. The parents of the infant supposed to have been in the coffin moved to Rochester. Grandy said he never had the heart to tell them.

MILKED SITTING ON GRAVESTONE.

"Mr. Burgdorff lived where James Shaw now lives. His cow shed covered one corner of the old cemetery and inside of the shed were two small graves. I have sat on the foot stones in the shed. Mr. Burgdorff said he sat on one of the stones when he did his milking. Two of the graves had caved in and Mr. Dill filled them up with stone.



W. H. THACKER. E. A. WADSWORTH. A. B. THACKER.

"There used to be a log house up on Main street and a child died there. Its father took its body on horseback to the Butler cemetery through the woods. The woods were so thick then around here that parties went ahead and blazed his way on the trees. That was years before we came here.

DEACON OLMSTEAD SURPRISED.

"I remember the explosion of cannon on one Fourth of July. The Baptists were having some kind of a meeting in the church. A piece of cannon came down through the roof and struck on the floor at the feet of Deacon Olmstead. He was so mad he got up and went out pretty quick, I tell you! I guess he was surprised.

"The Presbyterian meeting house was then

being built and was enclosed. The ladies had it decorated with evergreens and were serving a supper to raise money when the cannon exploded down there and a piece of it drove the pump down in the well."

**Thacker Bro's & Co.**, as a firm under that name, was organized with W. H. Thacker, A. B. Thacker and E. A. Wadsworth as its members in 1888. W. H. Thacker died in 1898 but there has since been no change in the firm or its business, the W. H. Thacker estate continuing to hold his interests there.

The business was begun by A. B. Thacker and J. S. Terrill in 1873 and when Mr. Terrill retired Mr. A. B. Thacker maintained the business as it was started until he had interested others in it; and he is really the founder of it.

Since then, through a few changes only, the business has steadily grown, extending its benign influence over

that wide extent of country out of which the merchants of Wolcott naturally draw trade.

When in 1888 Mr. Wadsworth, who had been a clerk for Thacker Bros. nine years and had grown up with the business, became partner and took up the more active part of the management of the business, new ideas for attracting trade were promulgated, a wider range of dealings adopted and the stimulation of trade became apparent, both in the growth of patronage and the expansion of business.

When the firm ten years ago settled into its present quarters, "The Steel Front Store," an entire building erected expressly for them, the people of Wolcott found they had got among them a department store conducted on the scale of a real department business in a large way.

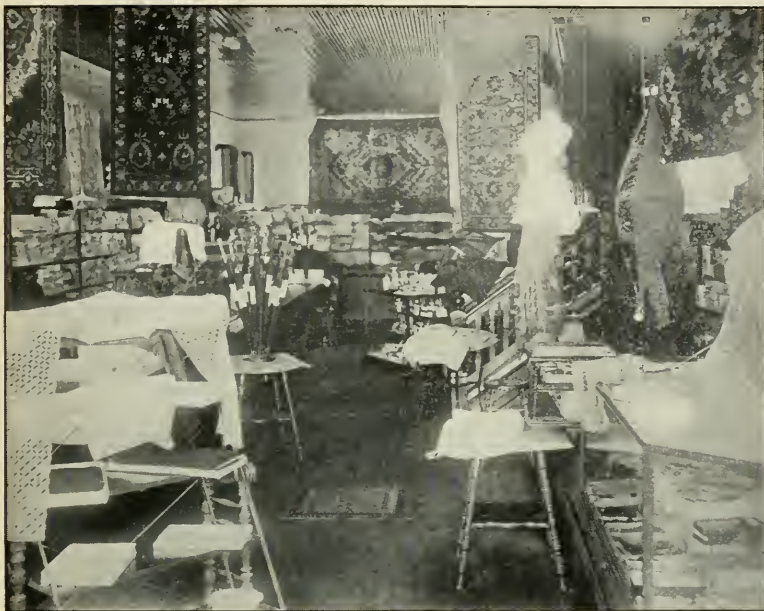
In point of floor space or quantity and charac-



Smith, Photo.

THACKER BROS. & CO, DEPARTMENT STORE.





Smith, Photo.

THACKER BROS. & CO.—DRY GOODS DEPT.

ter of goods, or from any other point of view, there is no firm in Wayne county outside of Lyons and Newark comparable with this one. Its business is carried on as that of a city store, and in a general sense it offers equal advantages with the best store in Lyons and Newark.

It comprises the four main departments of a large general retail mercantile establishment: the dry goods; that of carpets, rugs and curtains; boots and shoes; and the staple grocery and crockery lines.

The concern occupies two floors and basements of double stores, taking the main floors for dry goods and boots and shoes, the upper floors for the curtains, carpets, matting, draperies, cloaks and suits; and the basements for groceries, wall paper, crockery, lamps and china, guns, ammunition and sportsmen's goods.

The history of the business is the history of A. B. Thacker. The firm of Terrill & Thacker were together about two years, located in the Palmer block, then Mr. Terrill withdrew. While for a short time Mr. Thacker was looking about for a partner, fire swept out the south side of the street—in 1875—burning out the firm of Thacker & Johnson, who were

then conducting a grocery opposite Terrill & Thacker. W. H. Thacker and T. W. Johnson, brother and brother-in-law of A. B. Thacker, came into the business with him shortly after their fire, and for four or five years the firm was Thacker, Johnson & Co. On account of failing health Mr. Johnson then withdrew going into the west in search of rest and cure. This was followed by Thacker Bro's moving into the Whitford block.

In 1888 E. A. Wadsworth, Mr. A. B. Thacker's son-in-law, became a partner and the name of the firm since then has been Thacker Bro's & Co. It had now become apparent that a large

store was needed and so a lease was entered into with G. H. Northup and F. S. Johnson for a new building which they were to build and to plan to suit the firm. It is a large double store, long and broad, with a front of steel and is specially designed for the department business of this firm. Thacker Bros. & Co. opened in the new block in 1895 and since that time the impulse of its trade has carried the firm along with vigorous strides. The death of W. H. Thacker, in 1898, left E. A. Wadsworth with practically the management of the business in his own



Smith Photo

THACKER BROS. & CO.—BOOT AND SHOE DEPT.





Smith, Photo.

MRS. W. H. THACKER'S RESIDENCE.

hands. Mr. Wadsworth was born April 13, 1863, in the town of Savannah and was educated at Leavenworth Institute. At the age of seventeen years he went to work for Thacker Bros. & Co. Mr. Wadsworth is one of the organizers of the Wadsworth Band. He married Mary C., the daughter of A. B. Thacker, April 14, 1887, and they have two daughters, Marguerite and Mildred. Mr. Wadsworth is active in public matters and a lover of out-of-door sports, particularly with the gun, being the promoter of the Catchpole Gun Club of Wolcott and the man upon whom personally largely depends the success of the annual shoots by state marksmen held at Wolcott. He is a member of the Masonic order.

A. B. Thacker, the founder of the business has lived in the town of Wolcott sixty-five years and nearly half of that time in this village. His has

been a sturdy, active and productive career, overflowing with hours of labor, and to his excellent memory is due much of the valuable information published in this work. He was born Nov. 20, 1835, in Fayette, Seneca county, N. Y., where his parents coming from Cayuga county a year or two previous, resided until 1840, when they came to Wolcott and settled on the old Hunter farm north of the village. William Schuyler Thacker, his father, was both a horticulturist and agriculturist. He died on what is now the A. J. Dewitt farm which he had bought a few years previous. Mrs. T. W. Johnson and

Mrs. John L. Phillips, his daughters, reside at Wolcott. A. B. Thacker on May 9, 1860, married Margaret, the daughter of H. F. McIntyre who in the early 30's was a carpenter and builder in Wolcott. Mrs. Thacker is prominent in social and Grange circles. Their children are W. H. Thacker, on the farm; Luella A. (Mrs. Dr. E. P. Thatcher) of Newark; Mary C. (Mrs. E. A. Wadsworth) and Emma A., deceased, (Mrs. Hulbert) of Syracuse. A. B. Thacker, who for twelve years following his marriage was wholly devoted to farming, spends much of his time now in farming and fruit raising, dividing his hours of work, when not in the store, between his large grounds in the village and his farm.

William Henry Thacker was born in Owasco, Cayuga Co., N. Y., June 26, 1833, the son of Wm. Schuyler Thacker. On September 2, 1855, he married Augusta M., the only daughter of



Borrowed Photo.

A. B. THACKER'S RESIDENCE.



Smith, Photo.

E. A. WADSWORTH'S RESIDENCE.

Isaac Rice of Wolcott who lived on what is now the Wise homestead. W. H. Thacker bought the place soon after he married and carried on farming there until after the war. Then he and his brother-in-law, T. W. Johnson, bought the Creque farm, in 1866. And afterwards went into business together in Wolcott, opening a grocery on the south side of Main street where a short time after they were burned out; and after that forming the co-partnership already spoken of. The beautiful home of his widow, W. H. Thacker built the year he came to the village. He was a prominent supporter of the Presbyterian church society of Wolcott, an elder and trustee, and zealous worker in the church. He was the superintendent of the Sunday school at the time of his death, Aug. 26, 1898. For twenty-five years he was on the village Board of Education. He was a man of lofty character, Christian pre-

cepts and high purposes. He had no children of his own, but an adopted daughter. Mrs. Thacker is a busy woman, giving much of her time to ladies' work in the village.

#### Height of Water

**Sheds** of New York above tide. — Hudson river and Ramapo at Moncey, Westchester Co., 557 ft; Hudson and Delaware rivers at Otisville, Orange Co., 900 ft; Hudson and Neversink rivers at Wawarsing, Ulster Co., 850 ft; Hudson river and Lake Ontario at Rome, Oneida Co., 427 ft; Hudson river and Lake Erie at Tonawanda, Erie Co., 557 ft; Delaware and Susquehanna riv-

ers at Deposit Summit, Broome Co., 1,373 ft; Susquehanna and Mohawk rivers at Bouckville, Madison Co., 1,127 ft; Susquehanna river and Oneida lake at Tully, Onondaga Co., 1,247 ft; Susquehanna river and Cayuga lake at Ithaca Summit, Tompkins Co., 960 ft; Susquehanna river and Seneca lake at Horseheads, Chemung Co., 884 ft; Susquehanna and Genesee rivers at Alfred Summit, Alleghany Co., 1,780 ft; Genesee and Alleghany rivers at Cuba, Alleghany Co., 1,699 ft; Alleghany river and Lake Erie at Little Valley Summit, Cattaraugus Co., 1,614 ft; Mohawk river and Lake Ontario at Kasoag, Oneida Co., 536 ft; Mohawk and Black rivers at Boonville, Oneida Co., 1,120 ft; Lake Champlain and St. Lawrence river at Chateaugay Summit, Franklin Co., 1,050 ft.



Smith, Photo.

CATCHPOLE GUN CLUB-ANNUAL SHOOT AT WOLCOTT, MAY 24-'5, 1905.





W. W. PADDOCK.

**Mrs. F. L. Knapp**, located in Wolcott January 1, 1905, coming from Buffalo, with new and fashionable styles in millinery, and she has provided the village with a stock of the latest style of goods. Mrs. Knapp is a progressive, business woman and the people of Wolcott are giving her the patronage such a place deserves.

**William Warren Paddock**—During a period of forty-six years William Warren Paddock was one of the leading citizens and active business men of Wolcott. It was during the period that Wolcott grew up from a scattering village of a few small houses and wooden stores to a well built and prosperous town. To that growth Mr. Paddock contributed his full share in every way, so that any account of Wolcott would be incomplete which did not take him into consideration.

Mr. Paddock was born at Vienna in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 6th day of June, 1832, and was the second of nine children born to Jacob and Polly Paddock. When he was four years old his parents moved to the town of Huron and five years later removed to the town of Wolcott to the farm on Port Bay street known as the Benjamin Brown farm. Upon this farm Mr. Paddock spent his early life doing farm work and attending the district school for a few weeks at a time as he could be spared from the work. When he was eighteen years of age he determined to learn some trade. For a short time he tried harness making in Clyde but not finding that to his liking he entered the employ of the hardware firm of Bradish and Bourne at Lyons, N. Y. The spirit with which he entered upon his business career may be gathered from this incident: Upon applying to this firm for employment, they asked what terms and wages he expected, his reply was, "any terms, provided I thoroughly learn the trade." After a two years' apprenticeship with this firm, he worked as tinner for a few years at Clyde and Lyons.

In 1857 Mr. Paddock came to Wolcott and opened a hardware store in partnership with Mr. Samuel Foster. This store was a wooden building at the corner of Mill and Main streets on the site now occupied by the Lawrence Marble and Granite works. After a few years Mr. Foster took over the hardware business and for about two years Mr. Paddock ran a canning factory in connection with Mr. Ephraim Nichols. This was during the Civil War and the firm canned meats, vegetables and fruits on a large scale for that time, for the use of the soldiers in the Union army. At the close of the War this business was wound up and he bought back the entire hardware business of Mr. Foster. After the fire of 1872 he built the brick store at No. 14 Main street where he carried on his hardware business until his death.

Mr. Paddock always took an active and prominent part in all matters of public interest. Although his own educational opportunities had been limited to a few weeks per year in a district school, he was one of the founders and for years the treasurer of Leavenworth Institute. He



Smith, Photo.

MRS. F. L. KNAPP'S MILLINERY STORE.



with Col. Dutton planted the trees which now ornament the campus of that Institution. He also at his death provided for a scholarship at Syracuse University to be used for the benefit of needy Wolcott students. In politics Mr. Paddock was a Republican and although he never desired or held office outside of village affairs he never failed to exercise his right of franchise and take an active interest in the questions of the day. In village administration he was for one or more terms President of the village and many times trustee.

Mr. Paddock was converted and became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church when a young man about eighteen years of age and was a lifelong and active member of that church. The building of the present Methodist Episcopal church of Wolcott was financed and managed by him. He gave personally in money towards its construction the sum of \$2,000, which was one-fourth of his entire property at that time. During most of the years of his life at Wolcott he was a member of its official Board and a writer has said of him that "he brought to the use of the Church the same hard headed business sense that made him a success in his own private affairs, and from a struggling group of worshipers that society has grown to be one of the strongest in this community." At his death Mr. Paddock left this Church an endowment of \$2,000, as a permanent fund for building repairs.

At twenty-three years of age Mr. Paddock married Mary A. Lester of Lyons, N. Y., who still survives him. Five children were born to them, four of whom are living, H. Lester of Fulton, N. Y., William H. and Bessie Tift Paddock and Mrs. Edw. T. Brown of Wolcott, N. Y.,

Until his death, which occurred Nov. 24, 1903, he was active in business and interested in village affairs, constant in his devotion to his family, and was held in the highest respect by all who knew him.

**Reminiscences** of Old Timers East of the Creek—Wagons were Made from the Rough in Sebring's Shop—Beech Leaves Kept Family in Food:—

A. W. Chase, living east of the creek in the house where he and his wife began housekeeping fifty-five years ago, is eighty years old. His father, Oliver Chase, located over near Port Bay in 1826 in a log house. "That summer, my father having no supplies or means of getting them," said Mr. Chase, "the family were compelled to live on beech leaves for six weeks, which they cooked as you would greens.

"Our family the first night they were in this section stayed at Levi Smith's house. He built the old cobble stone house. He thought he would keep a cold water tavern and ran one for about a year. Then he changed it into a store which he had until about 1841 or '42 when it became a dwelling.

"Along in 1842 or '43 I worked at wagon making for Roswell Cleveland whose shop stood where the Methodist church now stands.

"Between the present grist mill and the site of the old saw mill in the gulf I helped build a saw mill for Middaw in which was placed a 40-horse power engine and which burned down. I

have seen that whole yard about the mills piled up twenty logs deep.

#### WATER WHEEL WOULD NOT RUN.

"Jerry Sebring bought Foster's farm and built a saw mill where Wadsworth's place is now, on the North Wolcott road, in a hollow. The water wheel could not raise the saw, which was an old muley saw, but Sebring had to start it going by putting a lever under the teeth of the saw. Then Sebring and I constructed a wheel with 20-inch buckets and you can bet that went. As the land was ditched and drained the stream gave out and Sebring got a steam engine. Alden Hale finally rented the mill. Then it was sold to Hall & Co. who put in machinery for cutting out barrel staves and heads, but they never did any business. The mill burned up.

"One of the old gunsmiths in later days was David Pease. I worked for him. He had a shop on Mill street at the foot of Auburn street in a building put up for a tavern.

#### EARLY FARMERS.

"Roswell Benedict was one of the earliest farm owners this side of the creek, north of Red Creek road. Pat Casey had the farm adjoining it on the east and Caleb Millicins owned the James Hyde farm. Next north was the Plank farm.

"My grandfather, Nathaniel Chase, came here a year before my father. He tended Plank's mill after it was rebuilt.

"Millington & Cornwell built the old White hotel just within my recollection. Jerry Sebring had a wagon shop where you turn off on to the Port Bay road. One season I made nine lumber wagons in that shop. I sawed out the fellies from the rough timber.

#### MYSTERY OF SPOOKY HOLLOW.

"I remember the incident of picking a nigger in the White Hotel. Jake Sherman, who lived over near Spooky Hollow, invited myself and several others to go over and see him pick the nigger. The nigger broke his jaw and I helped carry him home. Spooky Hollow was where they said the moans of a man who had been murdered could be heard, and many people avoided the place until it was found that the noise proceeded from one tree grinding against another.

#### THE TWO MILLERS.

"When N. W. Tompkins owned the grist mill I worked there. Warren Youngs was the miller. Then Tompkins traded the mill for a farm with a man named Olmstead and he brought along Miles Crane for the miller. I didn't like him and quit a month after.

"Moore's old distillery in the hollow near the Clyde road I remember well. Bert Saxon used to draw four-foot wood to the distillery and I can now see him driving four oxen hitched to a load. He got seventy-five cents a cord. In those days whiskey brought eighteen pence a gallon but we never had use for it."

**Reminiscences** of the Old "Black House Farm" Buildings; Describing the Condition of Main Street Fifty Years Ago:—

The old "Black House" farm buildings, the sites of which are now built up with beautiful village homes surrounded by lawns and gardens, are described by D. A. Foote. There are others living who remember them.

"After Dr. David Arne who was for years the owner and occupant of them had moved to Auburn, there to educate his children, M. P. Foote, his son-in-law, came to Wolcott to engage in business," said David A. Foote, "and the old Melvin buildings became his charge. The house he re-clapboarded thus disposing of the wretched appearance given it by being painted black. He spent \$2,000 in repairing the house. It was a long, two-story building, now standing on Smith street, with its gable toward the street.

"Across Main street stood the carriage house, now where Captain Curtis lives. A large sheep barn stood south of it in the field. The Langwell residence on Draper street stands a little east of the site of that barn.

"Along Main street, east of the farm house, now the site of a row of hands me dwellings, was the barnyard running from the street back ten rods. The barn shed, a long open structure for sheltering stock, formed the west boundary to the yard with one end resting on the street. The grounds of Will Paddock's residence occupy that site. Along about in the rear part of Will Paddock's lot was the big barn, enclosing the barnyard on the north. You can now see the old

church and crashed through the floor very close to where Jennie Boylan was standing.

"I recall the time when the upper balcony of the hotel went down with several people, at some doings in town, and injured a number. Mrs. Bissell was hurt the worst.

"My personal recollections of old timers include Abijah Moore, Dr. Wilson, James Wright and Hiram Church.

"I was born in Wolcott in the forties and learned the art of photography from Charles Ravel, beginning work for him in 1861 in the gallery over what is now Campbell's store. He made ambrotypes which soon after disappeared, being replaced with the wet plate process. De-guerotypes had gone out of use before my time.

"Chauncey P. Smith had a general store in the present Campbell store at that time."

**Draper Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star,** named for the late Dr. Edwin H. Draper, a Master Mason of long standing, was installed at Wolcott on February 25, 1898, by Past Grand Matron Elizabeth Raymond, assisted by Raymond Chapter, No. 100, of Savannah, N. Y.



Smith, Photo.

DRAPER CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

Top Row (left to right):—Mrs. Clifford Brewster, Mrs. C. D. Walker, Miss Nellie Moses, Mrs. Annie Dusenbury, Mrs. Wm. Olmstead, Miss Sue G. Craft, Mrs. Dr. Day, Miss Fannie Fish, Mrs. F. L. Knapp, Miss Carrie H. Bliss, Mrs. Dr. L. C. Jones. Middle Row:—Miss Carolyn D. Exner, Mrs. C. H. Hammer, Mrs. Arthur Jorden, Mrs. E. H. Kellogg, Dr. L. C. Jones, Mrs. Dr. S. W. Houston. Lower Row:—Mrs. Rollo Stewart, Mrs. Charles Graves, Mrs. J. A. Murphy, Mrs. U. G. Brewster, Mrs. C. H. Wethy.

well where the stock was watered with its covering of boards in the midst of Campbell's lawn. That stood outside of the east fence to the barnyard and the water was run through a pipe into a trough in the yard. A pair of bars opened the way from the street into the barnyard. Where Campbell's residence stands was a tenant house belonging to the farm.

"Down here on Main street, along in front of Will Church's and G. H. Northup's residences, extending to Campbell's store, was a pond over which I have poled myself on a raft when a boy.

"I recall an old office structure—a small frame building—on the site of Campbell's store, which rested on blocks sawed out of logs to keep it out of the marshy ground and you got into the door by walking a plank. The pond is now replaced with a macademized street and fine lawns, and a modern business block stands in the place of the little shop on blocks.

"When the cannon exploded on the Fourth of July which you have spoken of, a piece of the metal fell through the roof of the Presbyterian

The Chapter started on its career with sixty charter members, and a charter was granted it by the Grand Lodge on Sept. 9, 1898.

The first Worthy Matron and first Patron of the local chapter were Mrs. Bertha Kelly and Geo. W. Roe, respectively, who were both re-elected and held office for two years.

They were succeeded by the following Worthy Matrons:—Nellie C. Graves; Jennie R. Foster; Ada A. P. Stewart; Minnie T. Hammond and Mrs. Lillian D. Kellogg, the present incumbent. The following are Past Worthy Patrons:—Samuel Cosad; L. H. Carris; and Lloyd C. Jones, who holds the office at this writing.

Since the institution of the chapter it has initiated sixty-three members, and has at present a membership of 101. In its more than seven years of existence it has lost but four members by death.

It is one of the most flourishing and useful orders in the village, and does much to promote right living and good cheer.





Smith, Photo.

MODEL FRUIT FARM, OWNED BY A. B. SABIN.

**A. B. Sabin**, proprietor of the Sabin Hotel, was born in the town of Wolcott on his father's farm at Port Bay, the old homestead of which he is to-day the owner and in which he takes much pride. Mr. Sabin was a small boy when his father died. Leaving home at an early age and with a small capital from the sale of a horse he owned, he got into business in the west where he lived thirty-two years, and returned east in 1892 after making a success in acquiring property. Leaving Oswego on a steamboat, a mere stripling, he went to Michigan, Missouri and other states. In several places he became manager or owner of fine hotel property, especially in Kalamazoo, Mich., and in Hannibal, Mo., and in some cases built up the business of hotels that had not been flourishing.

In 1871 he married Estelle Bowen, a native of New York State, at Plainwell, Mich. They have one son, A. B. Sabin, Jr., who was educated at Notre Dame College, South Bend, Ind., and who is the manager of Mr. Sabin's farm.

At Manistee, Mich., on the lake opposite Chicago, Mr. Sabin lost every dollar he possessed in a fire which cleaned out the town and which very strangely sprung up the same day of the Chicago fire. But this did not dampen his ardor as a few years later he succeeded in recovering all he had lost, and making even a greater success than before.

Since returning to Wolcott Mr. Sabin has bought and sold different farms. He is now the owner of the splendid Webster Thorn fruit farm of fifty-four acres near the lake, in which he takes a good deal of pride. This is without a superior in growing fruit. The buildings are in fine shape and the location is grand, giving a view of Lake Ontario. The residence is a fourteen-room house and there are on the place three good sized barns. One of them is 90x35 feet, another 30x42 and the third 32x20.

Mr. Sabin has bought and sold considerable village real estate and is an active promoter of public affairs. He is a member of the Colantha



Smith, Photo.

A. B. SABIN.

THE SABIN HOTEL, A. B. SABIN, PROPRIETOR.





L. W. KNAPP'S BAKERY AND CONFECTIONERY.

Lodge, No. 50, K. of P., of Niles, Mich., and the Wolcott lodge of Odd Fellows; also the N. P. L. of Wolcott.

**G. F. Kellogg** opened a pool and billiard room in the Horton Block in October, 1903, and a cigar business connected therewith, equipping the place with the famous Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co.'s tables which have the professional doweled slate beds and the best Monarch cushions. He conducts a popular resort for men who enjoy billiards or pool, or a good cigar. Mr. Kellogg was born in Wolcott and has always resided in the village or vicinity. He is a member of Red

Creek Lodge, No. 725, I. O. O. F., and has been through all the chairs in that lodge. To Miss Cora Houghtaling of Westbury, Cayuga Co., N. Y., he was married December 8, 1895, but she died in April, 1900, leaving two children, who since the death of their mother have, with their father, made their home with Gilbert Fisher, Mr. Kellogg's grandfather.

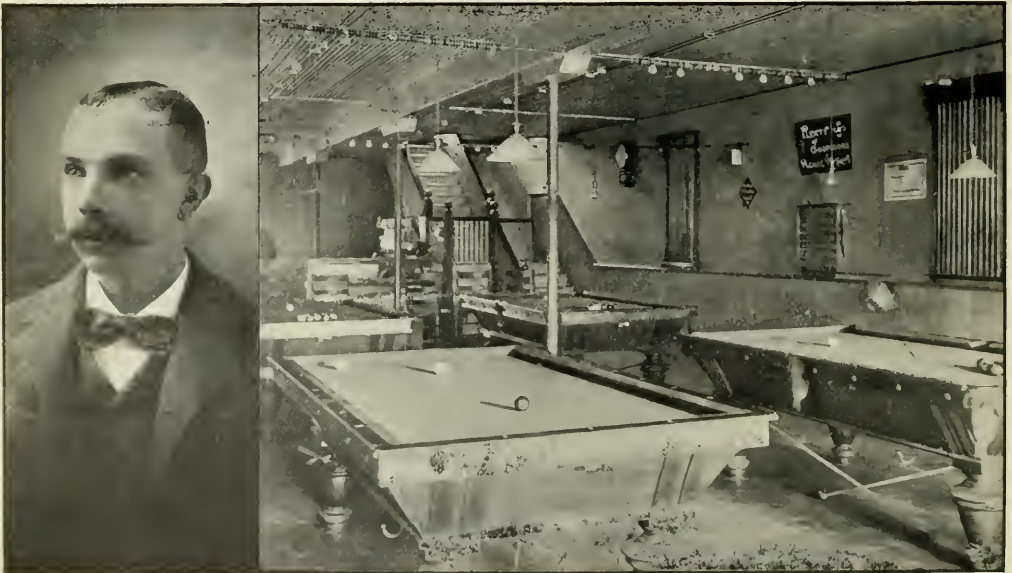
#### Judgments Wound

Up the Wolcott Interests of Three Earliest Business Operators; Men who Purchased their Lands:—

From Hiram Church's historical sketches we condense the following concerning the financial difficulties that wound up the Wolcott interests of Jonathan Melvin, Obadiah Adams and Adonijah Church.

Jonathan Melvin, Adonijah Church and Jacob Viele were endorsers on Obadiah Adams' paper to the Geneva and Utica banks for money to carry on his business.

Soon after 1823 his endorsed paper went to protest and it terminated in a suspension of most of his business operations. His endorsers made arrangement with the banks to put off prosecu-



Smith, Photo.

G. F. KELLOGG.

KELLOGG'S POOL AND BILLIARD ROOMS.

tion for a time. Mr. Melvin had moved back to Phelps and Mr. Church, on account of sickness, was unable to look after Mr. Adams' affairs. After consultation with Melvin, Adams built the blast furnace but his creditors dispossessed him.

Judgments were obtained against Mr. Melvin and Mr. Church and on the execution of the judgments the sheriff sold the last of Melvin's lands in Wolcott, about 450 acres, now included in the corporation limits. In the meantime Adams was confined for a short time in the jail limits at Lyons. Melvin's farm in Phelps was also sold leaving him his only support a revolutionary pension.

The sheriff also sold the farm of Adonijah Church consisting of 175 acres, but not until after his death. It is now the farm of Mrs. Wm. Dutton. The widow's right of dower—about \$500—was all that was left to support herself and five children.

Jacob Viele paid about \$2,500 to satisfy the claims against him on the Adams' paper.

Elias Y. Munson bought of the bank the land belonging to Adams including the tavern. He sold the farm on the north side of Main street, now including the site of the stores on that side of the street—to S. P. and C. A. Keyes and kept the tavern.

The bank sold 250 acres of what Melvin owned—the "Black House" property—to David Arne for \$17 an acre. Melvin's property on the east side of Mill creek the bank sold to Levi Smith who built the cobble stone house.

Nathan Pierce, his son-in-law, built the White Hotel. [This statement is contradicted by those who say that it was built by Millington and another].

The balance of the Melvin farm, about sixty acres, taken by the bank, was sold to Hiram Bement from Vermont. It was later known as the Roswell Benedict farm.

The Melvin mill property was sold to Dr. Tripp by the bank who also bought the residence of Melvin's son Alanson. This wiped out all of Melvin's property interests in Wolcott, as well as those of Adonijah Church and Obadiah Adams.

**School Acre** Donated by Melvin Subject of Controversy when the Baptist Church was Erected—Settled by Arbitration:—

The village green, including an acre of ground, was donated to the village by Jonathan Melvin in 1813 for school purposes, giving the privilege of religious worship there also. This was construed in many ways by later settlers when a controversy over the use of the public green had started. Some maintained that it meant the right of building a church. Others held that the lot was exclusively for a school but holding the district to the proviso that at all times, when not interfering with school purposes, the building must be left open to religious services.

#### ERECTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

At first the school being erected—about where the present engine house stands—in 1813, it was used for all purposes, school, "strolling players," knitting societies [now it is aid societies] and occasional preaching. Here Elder Butterick preached under the auspices of the Presbyterian Board which in those days kept traveling

preachers in all of the thinly settled part of New York state. Then, no church society thought of building. But a few years later Obadiah Adams bought and moved this school building across the street for an addition to his tavern, and the district erected the red school building still farther south. This was used for religious services, entertainments, etc., and in 1842 was succeeded by the new two-story school building which was then considered an imposing school. This was burned in 1865. After that the public school and Leavenworth Institute were united in the Institute building.

#### CHURCH SITES REJECTED.

In the meantime the different church societies when they set about to build turned their eyes upon the village green. Hiram Church has written that the Presbyterians and Methodists successively rejected a building site on the green and, as we know, built in other parts of the village. But the Baptist society claimed a building site there. Then arose the controversy over its location between the society and the school district.

#### THE DISPUTE ARBITRATED.

The course followed in settling the dispute has been told by Mr. Church as follows: "The opposition to the claim of the trustees of the church society became more bitter when they commenced their [church] foundation. Before going any farther they made a halt and the whole question as to their right to build on the lot and how much ground they were to occupy according to the conveyance given by Mr. Melvin to the trustees of Wolcott school district No. 1 was settled by arbitration, which was submitted to Judge Sisson of Lyons, Thomas Armstrong of Butler and Mr. Ferris of Cato," who rendered a decision in writing which gave the church the occupancy of the ground it had chosen for the foundation of the building and defined the limits of the lot, which the society has since occupied.

**First Families** in Wolcott; How They Got Started for this Section:—"Dr. Zenas, Gen. Ebenezer and John Hyde, three eldest sons of Maj. John Hyde, with Osgood and Adonijah Church and Obadiah Adams (who married Eunice Church) and Jarvis Mudge, a drover who for years drove cattle and horses to the Philadelphia market,"—such was the description of the first party coming to Wolcott to settle, which was written for a local paper in 1876 by Milton Barney at Brooklyn, Cal. They lived at New Marlborough, Berkshire Co., Mass., and, except Gen. Ebenezer, they agreed to move to the "Great Sodus Bay country." Mr. Barney wrote: "Obadiah Adams was the pioneer merchant of that section. Zenas Hyde and his brother John had grown up children. The Church families were young. Jarvis Mudge's children were mostly grown. \* \* As I was passing from Wolcott to Clyde forty or fifty years since [between 1826 and '36] I called on Deacon Abram Knapp who had moved from New Marlborough; they had a daughter, about my age, blind, who was precocious in learning from memory; they had also a son, Samuel, who was a preacher. Mrs. Knapp was the mother of Philo C. Fuller, who was Assistant Postmaster General for several years at Washington."





Smith, Photo.

## KEESLER POST, NO. 55, G. A. R.

Lower Row (left to right):—Isaac Vanderpool, Truman E. Mason, Samuel Bancroft, Irving Scott, Rev. Mr. Terwilliger of Port Byron, Abram Egnor, Joseph Reamer, Cyrus E. Fitch, Frank Lutes, Judson Boynton. Middle Row:—Joseph E. Lawrence, John Cowles, Aaron Chapman, Nelson Taylor, Benjamin Sharp, Charles Sharp, Eron J. Peck. Upper Row:—Walter Scott, Irving McIntyre, Nathaniel J. Fields, Robert Wolven.

**Keesler** Post, No. 55, G. A. R., was organized as Dutton Post. At a meeting of veterans in the law office of Col. Anson S. Wood, Past Department Commander of New York, Aug. 5, 1875, the Post was instituted. The following officers were elected and installed: Commander, George B. Curtis; Senior Vice, James H. Hyde; Junior Vice, Stephen E. Bullock; Adjutant, J. M. Henslee; Quarter Master, Anson S. Wood; Chaplain, Daniel Conger; Surgeon, Eben W. Newberry; Officer of the Day, Thomas W. Johnson; Officer of the Guard, Wesley Cole; Quarter Master Sergeant, Robert Cole; Sergeant Major, H. F. Blackmore. The other charter members were Lansere Porter, Elijah Angus, Irving R. Seeley, Cassius M. Clapp, Albert Carrier, John Miller, Ensign L. Calkins and Wm. H.

Thomas. The Post grew from 18 to 200 members. Losses by death, transfers, etc., have reduced the number to fifty.

A few years after the organization of the Post the present name was adopted in honor of three sons of Adam Keesler, all of whom enlisted at Wolcott and lost their lives in active service.

In 1894 Henry A. Graves, Fletcher S. Johnson, William Paddock, Homer L. Rumsay, George S. Horton and U. G. Brewster presented the Post with a handsome memorial volume which is valued highly. Among the distinguished members since deceased were W. H. Thomas, Stephen De Voe, "the fighting chaplain" of the 9th Heavy Artillery, Dr. T. S. Fish, Stephen E. Bullock, Thomas W. Johnson, J. M. Henslee, John L. Phillips, Wm. Rogers and Ethan Kellogg. This



Smith, Photo.

## LOGAN CIRCLE, LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

Lower Row (left to right):—Mrs. Abram Egnor, Mrs. Helen Curtis, Mrs. J. E. Lawrence, Mrs. Cyrus E. Fitch, Mrs. Anna Hanford. Middle Row:—Mrs. Charles Miller, Mrs. Maria Vanderpool, Mrs. E. J. Peck, Mrs. Helen Burt, Mrs. Irving McIntyre, Mrs. Irving Scott, Mrs. Manley Cole, Mrs. Milton B. Wadsworth. Upper Row:—Mrs. Hiram Taylor, Mrs. Charles Richards, Mrs. George Waterman, Miss Ada Van Alstyne, Mrs. Charles Sharp, Mrs. Benjamin Sharp.





Smith, Photo.

WOLCOTT LEGION, NO. 305, N. P. L.

Lower Row (left to right):—Mrs. Lemuel Wadsworth, Miss Jennie Reynolds, C. W. Smith. Middle Row:—Charles W. Walker, Miss Bertha Mott, Mrs. Wm. Reynolds, Mrs. David Doolittle, Miss Belle Mott, Charles Lawrence, Newton Greenizen. Upper Row:—Lewis W. Knapp, J. R. Waldorf, Miss Edith Vanarsdale, Mrs. Augustus Lovejoy, Miss Pearl Doolittle, Halsey Lovejoy, Mrs. Newton Michel, Lemuel Wadsworth, Harvey Chapin.

Post was distinguished by Col. Anson S. Wood who was Commander of the Department of New York.

**Logan Circle, No. 29, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic**, was organized June 26, 1901, by Mrs. Mary E. Hancock of Fulton, Past President of the Department of New York, with eighteen charter members. The following officers were elected and installed: President, Mrs. J. E. Lawrence; Senior Vice, Mrs. Anna Hanford; Junior Vice, Mrs. Irving McIntyre; Treasurer, Mrs. E. J. Peck; Secretary, Mrs. Fred Fitch; Chaplain, Mrs. Cyrus E. Fitch; Conductor, Mrs. Charles Miller; Guard, Mrs. Helen Curtis; Assistant Conductor, Mrs. Geo. Mitchell; Assistant Guard, Mrs. Manly Cole. The Circle and Post have always worked in harmony, most members of the latter being honorary members of the Circle and having a voice in its deliberations.

**Wolcott Legion, No. 305, N. P. L.**, was organized in 1899 with forty-five charter members, including many prominent citizens of the village. Its growth has been steady and in the past year the membership was increased 180, and there was paid out on policies that had matured \$24,000, during this one year. It has now the second year held the prize banner of Wayne county. The officers are: President, Mrs. David Doolittle; Past President, Mrs. Charles Trickler; Vice-President, Mrs. Edward Robbins; Secretary, C. W. Smith; Treasurer, J. R. Waldorf; Chaplain, Rev. Jennie I. Pitts; Conductor, Mrs. Wm. Reynolds; O. G., Sidney Jones; Organist, Mrs. Newton Michels.

**Gas and Oil.**—The Wolcott Gas and Mining Company sunk a well in the village of Wolcott in 1887, to the depth of 2,700 feet and found both brine and natural gas.



Smith, Photo.

LADIES' AID, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

Centre of Lower Row:—Mrs. Jennie I. Pitts. At her right hand: Mrs. Wealthy Campbell and Mrs. N. Stage. At her left: Mrs. Bertha Wicks and Mrs. Celia Miller. The girl: Mabel Brown. Upper Row (left to right):—Mrs. Nellie Curtis, Mrs. C. Merrill, Mrs. E. Bennett, Miss Matie Kitchen, Mrs. Libbie Cole, Miss Lulu Wicks, Mrs. Rose Brown, Mrs. Julia Pringle, Miss Minnie Sherman, Miss Grace Pitts, Mrs. Cora Porter.

**The First National Bank** of Wolcott, N. Y., was organized and opened for business Aug. 19, 1901. There were elected for directors, who are also the present Board of Directors having since served continuously, Charles H. Palmer, George S. Horton, G. H. Northup, J. G. Strait and E. D. Scott. Mr. Palmer, who is connected with the Traders' National Bank at Rochester, was elected president, G. S. Horton, vice-president, and E. D. Scott, cashier, all of whom constitute the present officers. Lewis M. Mead is the bookkeeper and Lizzie Mead the assistant bookkeeper.

The opening of a National Bank, the first one in the village, was an important step introducing Wolcott to a new business era. It made money more elastic and rates better in the community and gave to the business interests a greater degree of confidence in a prospective expansion of

enterprise is a guarantee of its absolute safety and continued financial success.

**Amos Nash**, who only a few days before his death which occurred June 22, 1905, gave interesting reminiscences [see page 33], was town clerk seven years, supervisor one year, road commissioner, overseer of the poor, president of the village and village trustee. In his prime he was a large, powerful man and it is said a constable who was physically undersized, was accustomed to call upon Amos to make arrests where a powerful man was necessary. Amos loved a joke and could take one. The story is told that once while pushing a prisoner ahead of him by main force Amos met his first "Waterloo." The prisoner suddenly dropped and as Nash by his own momentum plunged forward, the prisoner lying on his back raised his captor



Borrowed Photo

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF WOLCOTT.

trade. For public confidence in a National Bank induces new enterprises to come to a village in preference to going where there is none. Every person and business man having banking to do hereabouts is being benefited directly and indirectly by the First National Bank. That the public appreciates this fact is shown by the growth of the institution.

Its resources when opened a month, as shown by its first statement, Sept. 30, 1901, was \$61,000. The statement Nov. 10, 1904, a trifle over three years later, shows \$261,000 resources. The bank pays taxes on about \$35,000. No enterprise here since the organization of this bank or for some years prior to it has benefited the community more than this.

Through the enterprise and business foresight of its organizers Wolcott has the prestige of a firm, expansive and progressive National banking institution, which carefully safeguards the interests of its customers. The successful business experience of the persons interested in this en-

above him with arms and feet and tossed him to the ground quite a distance ahead. Before Nash regained his feet the prisoner had taken leg bail.

**Slave Labor** on Great Sodus Bay Cleared Land at Port Glasgow; Helmes' Plantation and What Came of It:—

That beautiful section of shore overlooking Great Sodus Bay at Port Glasgow was cleared by slave labor. In 1800 Thomas Helmes came from Maryland with seventy slaves and took up two or three hundred acres of land. He put his negroes at work clearing away the brush and cutting down the trees. They were not adept with the use of the axe and Helmes, who had been at considerable expense in starting the undertaking with so many slaves to feed where supplies could be obtained only at large cost, found his dream of a new Maryland disappear-





Borrowed Photo.

EDWARD H. KELLOGG.

ing. He was not the best tempered man and the incompetency of slave labor in clearing away virgin forest did not improve it. He found it more expensive than free labor.

Then, when winter arrived the slaves could not stand the severe weather and were helpless from suffering or died.

Helmes drove his slaves severely in his efforts to make good his losses but it was useless. He found that the scheme must be abandoned. One night three of his negroes took to an open boat and paddled up the bay disappearing in the new country to the south. They were tracked only a short distance.

The following day most of the negroes rose in revolt. Helmes and two white men with guns succeeded in restoring order only after one of the negroes had been shot.

His body, it is said, was buried in a cove near the water a few rods north of Port Glasgow.

Helmes did not long survive the opening of his plantation. His slaves, with a few exceptions—those who disappeared—were taken back to Maryland.

**Railroad**—The Lake Ontario Shore Railroad was completed through the town of Wolcott in 1874, work on its construction being begun in 1871. The town was bonded to the amount of \$139,000 drawing 7 per cent. On Feb. 1, 1882, the bonds were exchanged for 5 per cent. bonds.

**Edward H. Kellogg**, a practicing lawyer prominent in the legal profession and in politics throughout Wayne and adjacent counties, was born in Wolcott village December 22, 1855. His father, Dr. A. D. Kellogg, then a practicing physician of prominence here, moved to Wolcott from Cato, Cayuga county, in 1845, at a period when men of the most vigorous character had begun to push the village to the front of Wayne county villages. Attorney Kellogg was educated in the Leavenworth Institute and after finishing an academic course began the study of law with William Roe and Jefferson W. Hoag, being admitted to practice at the bar in June, 1881. Mr. Kellogg married Mary Lillian, the daughter of Wilson De Witt, an old Wolcott family then living at Rochester, in that city Jan. 18, 1888.

The practice of Mr. Kellogg, upon which he entered Jan. 1, 1882, has been extensive and successful, which although general in scope includes negligence litigation as a specialty. Two prominent cases in which Mr. Kellogg won resulted in two judgments for Mr. Kellogg's clients aggregating \$50,000. The cause was that of two insurance companies against the New York Central Railroad Company of which one sued for loss of a malt house at North Rose by fire and the other for loss of its contents. Mr. Kellogg has served as Justice of the Peace twelve years and Police Justice nine years. He was four times elected clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the first time in 1889. In 1894 he was elected District Attorney of Wayne county, and in 1897 re-elected to that office. He is a member of the Board of Education and has been twelve years past; and he is active in the Masonic order.

Mr. Kellogg was a loyal Republican until the second McKinley campaign when he broke away from the party because of its imperialistic policy.

**Drum Corps.**—The Wolcott Military Drum Corps was organized in 1896 and has fifteen instrumentalists. A. T. Phillips is the musical director, Clark Lefevre the president, and C. W. Smith the secretary and business manager.



Smith, Photo.

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

FRED BENJAMIN.

M. E. CORNWELL.

GEO. S. GRAVES.

JAMES COOK.



Smith, Photo.

O. M. CURTIS.

**O. M. Curtis** in 1896 brought into the village of Wolcott what it had long needed and what no up-to-date village can dispense with, an electric lighting plant, and the success his venture has met with is both creditable to the community that patronizes liberally modern methods and to Mr. Curtis, whose conduct of the enterprise deserves good patronage. The plant includes an Atlas-Corliss engine, besides a reserve engine and double boilers, and the necessary dynamos,

and has the capacity for handling 3,000 lights. It is the latest and best of electric lighting plants, newly equipped throughout, and is kept as clean and in as good order generally as competent hands and close attention can give it. While there are wired in 2,000 lights the service is steadily increasing, lighting the new buildings that are going up and the old ones that are being improved. The street lighting is with the General Electric enclosed arcs that were put in new four years ago.

In connection with the electric lighting Mr. Curtis owns and operates the foundry which was established in 1845 and is widely known throughout this section. Here he manufactures the popular Giant fruit evaporator and the Giant heating furnace, both inventions of his own patented in the United States and Canada and sold very largely in both countries. These have been developed to the most practical point, and are giving excellent satisfaction, giving to Wolcott a high reputation in that line. Mr. Curtis started in with a crude sheet iron evaporator which sold largely to fruit growers when it was customary for them to evaporate their own fruit and in small quantities, and by elaborating the original idea he secured a highly practical evaporator to use on a large scale.

This foundry is one of the old time institutions of Wolcott. It was established in 1845 by Allen Rice and Joseph Vernoy. The next owners were Rice & Taylor who were succeeded by Wm. Hamilton and afterwards by George B. Curtis and Jerome P. Sheldon. Mr. G. B. Curtis continued his connection with the foundry until it finally passed into the hands of his son. Those who succeeded Jerome P. Sheldon as Mr. Curtis' partners were Chauncey P. Smith, B. F. Peck, E. J. and John Peck and Nathan Knapp. In the fire of 1876 which swept off the east side of Mill street this foundry was totally destroyed. A



Smith, Photo.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT BUILDING AND FOUNDRY.



much better building was erected with brick, and is much larger; replacing the old wooden structures with modern and more imposing buildings.

O. M. Curtis was born in the village of Wolcott May 9, 1867, and was educated in the public schools of Wolcott, Sodus and Albany. For a time he was bookkeeper for Conrad Ruso at Albany, then he farmed at Sodus three years. In 1887 he took the Curtis & Knapp foundry. Mr. Curtis married Corilla A. Borradaile of Sodus Center December 12, 1888, and they have two children, Helen Lucille and George Graydon.

**Senators** from Wayne Co.:—Armstrong, Thomas 1830-'7; Clark, William, 1854-'5; Cuyler, Samuel C. 1856-'7; Green, Byram 1823-'4 Robinson, Thomas 1884-'5; Sherwood, Lyman 1843-'4; Saxton, Charles T. 1890-'4; Williams, Alexander B 1858-'61; Williams, Stephen K. 1864-'9.

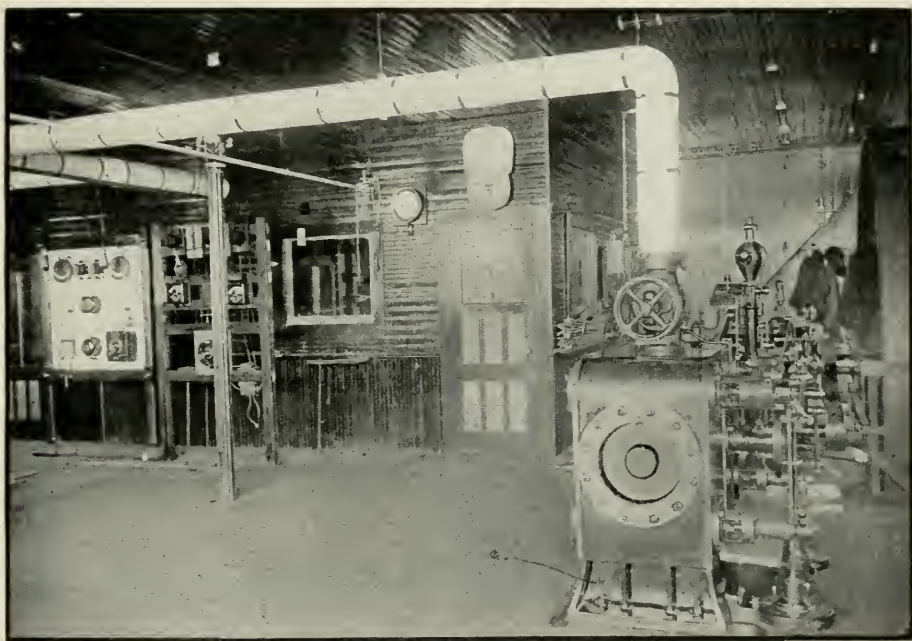
Vantassel had previously contracted for and moved in about 1813. He and his two sons were noted as being great hunters—more particularly in killing bears, which were at that day often seen when passing through the forest. Carpenter Wisner stated that his father, himself and brother John had killed nine large black bears in the old town of Wolcott.

Moses Wisner, a brother of James, settled on the lot that Obadiah Adams had previously contracted about two miles east of Sloop Landing in 1816.

Nathan Cook settled on the farm previously bought of Elikam Tupper, about 1818.

#### WEDDED SCHOOL MARM.

Jedediah Wilder purchased of Samuel Mellen the fulling mill and the present site of the Methodist church in 1815. He carried on cloth-dressing and carding for several years. His purchase



Smith, Photo. THE ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT; SHOWING BIG CORLISS ENGINE.

**Early Settlers** Described by an "Old Timer," now Deceased; Men Who Bought of Land Contractors:—

Hiram Church has written of some of the early settlers as follows:—

Jesse Mathews was elected Supervisor in the town in 1817, and held the office of Justice of the Peace for several years.

Daniel Roe, Sr., came in and bought Aaron Hoppen's land contract in 1812. [See "Land Contracts" another page].

Lot Stuard settled on the lot previously purchased by Alpheus Harmon, and he built a double log house and kept a tavern.

The town meetings were alternately held at Lot Stuard's and Obadiah Adams' until the division of the old town of Wolcott.

#### SLAUGHTER OF BEARS.

James Wisner settled on the lot that Robert

was previous to his marriage—his intended was teaching the district school at Wolcott at that time. She was the daughter of Henry Wells of the town of Sodus. They were married soon after the close of the summer school. Mr. Wilder, who was successful, sold his fulling mill and house to Roswell Benedict about the year 1826 and the same year purchased and moved on the farm of Deacon Zenas Wheeler.

Zenas Wheeler came to Wolcott in the spring of 1808, a young and single man, and was a teamster for the Churches when they came from Massachusetts to Wolcott. He was ninety-five years old when he died.

Lambert Woodruff came as early as 1808 and purchased about 500 acres, 400 of which joined the Black House farm on the north and extended to Furnace village.

James Alexander came about 1809. He was a prominent man, serving as highway commissioner and in several other offices.



Smith, Photo.

C. D. WALKER.

J. WELLER CO.'S WOLCOTT PICKLE FACTORY.

**J. E. Lawrence** came to Wolcott in 1872 and started in the marble business with A. B. Southwell of Oswego in the old flatiron block. Five years later Mr. Lawrence bought Mr. Southwell's interest and erected the building shown in the accompanying engraving. Mr. Lawrence has done a prosperous business in the same place ever since. His work is sold all over this section of the state and he has put up many large jobs in other states.

**The J. Weller Co.'s Pickle factory**, located at Wolcott, N. Y., in 1902, is a striking illustration of the results, important to a community, that may be accomplished by a large industrial institution locating there.

The J. Weller Co. is a World-Size House in its own line—pickles, kraut, ketch-up, jellies, preserves, mince meats, and other condiments, giving itself the reputation, par excellence, and establishing its success in one alone of its many products—the celebrated Acme Pickles. In the states of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and

New York this house has twenty-six factories—a business built up during a period of about thirty years. It owns a line of tank cars for shipping pickles in brine. The grit and energy of the business men who established and control it have done this. These facts are essential to mention here to give the reader a clear idea of the importance of this single business enterprise in Wolcott alone.

The future of the Wolcott branch is very bright, because it has obtained the confidence of growers hereabouts; and more than that, because it is designed for a considerable local expansion and is also intended as the eastern headquarters of the manufactured product, or rather the supply house for the east. Then, too, the agriculturalists hereabouts have begun to comprehend the value of raising produce to be converted into pickles for money getting. Every season since the Wolcott plant was established has been cold and wet—unfavorable for raising pickle crops, yet beginning in 1902 with 150 acres the plant has gradually increased its source of supply until now it is receiving from 200 acres and paying



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J. E. LAWRENCE'S MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS.



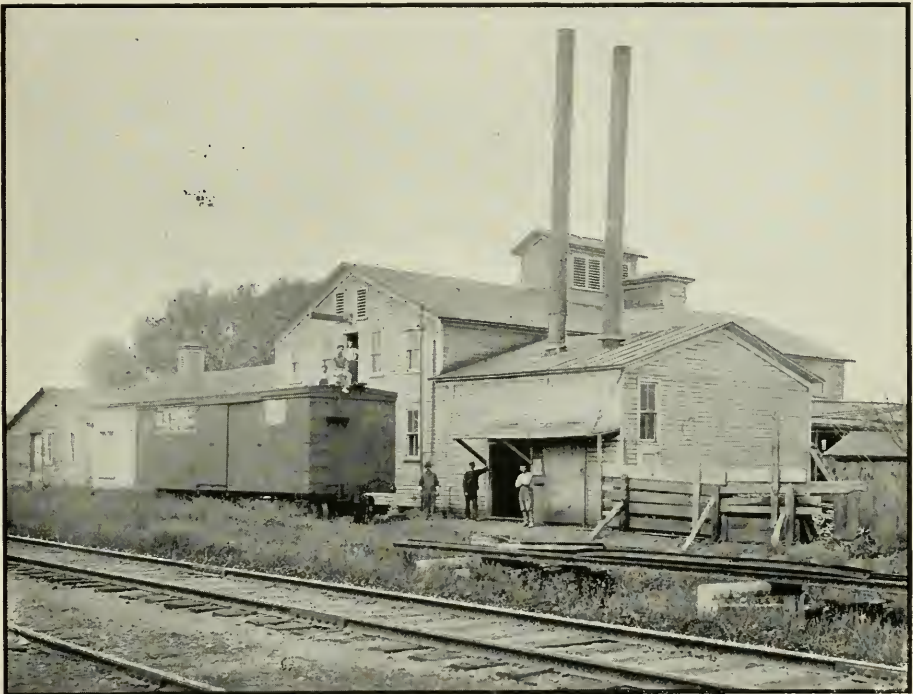
out during the season as high as \$17,000, which going to the farmers is by them distributed among the tradesmen of the village.

For the farmer this is of great value. He realizes largely per acre, some here having obtained as high as \$138 an acre. One farmer got \$560 from five acres one year. This means the distribution of money for the raw products in the town of Wolcott and vicinity, when the seasons again become normal, amounting to as much as \$21,000 for one year's produce taken in at the Wolcott factory. The system of cash payment at the factory on the delivery of the crop—the payment being made at a time of the year before the agriculturalist gets his money out of the average harvest, are strong inducements for putting a considerable acreage into produce from which the J. Weller Co. manufacture so many lines of table necessities.

cans a day. Here the principal canning products are vegetables, but a considerable quantity of fruit is also canned, and no doubt in time fruit will be handled in this factory as extensively as vegetables. Last year 12,000 bushels of apples were canned by this one plant; and both strawberries and raspberries were put up here. This season the acreage being cultivated for this factory consists of 225 acres in peas, 100 acres in corn, 30 in string beans and 20 in strawberries.

The extent to which the village and adjacent farming section are benefited is shown in the fact that last year The Twitchell-Champlin Co. paid out at their Wolcott factory \$20,000.

This Company are large wholesale grocers in Portland, Me., who are operating outside of Wolcott five other canning factories, including large canneries of fish in Maine. Their canning



Smith, Photo.

THE TWITCHELL-CHAMPLIN WOLCOTT CANNING FACTORY.

The firm upon opening the Wolcott plant placed in charge of it a gentleman with a large experience in the management of pickle factories, Mr. C. D. Walker. It is the policy of the firm to employ only that class of men. Mr. Walker has been fortunate in his dealings in this community, and perhaps the house has been benefited by having a local manager who pleases the public.

**The Twitchell-Champlin Co.'s** Canning factory was opened for operation in 1903 and its production the two seasons it has been running, as well as the promise of the current year, shows that this enterprise is taking the lead in this part of the state over similar institutions. Its output is about a million cans a year. The factory buildings and the machinery are comparatively new, and its productive capacity is 30,000

business alone amounts to an enormous figure annually and Wolcott has been fortunate in getting one of the branches of a company operating on so large a scale and having the strong financial standing that this has. Local capital first built the factory and partly equipped it about a year before The Twitchell-Champlin Co. bought and opened it.

W. A. Buckminster, the manager of the Wolcott factory has had an experience of fifteen years in canning and it is fortunate for the Wolcott people that a man of his experience is in charge of this plant. He came the first year and it is to his credit that the factory has obtained the good will and support of the community. Mr. Buckminster was born in Stonington, Me., Nov. 16, 1863. He was married to Carrie F. Crockett of the same place in 1887, and they have four children. He is a member of the Masonic order and the A. O. U. W.



C. W. SMITH, the Souvenir Photographer.

**C. W. Smith**, the artist on "Grip's" Historical Souvenir of Wolcott began the photographic business in Wolcott in 1897 in company with Stanton with whom he continued one year; afterwards with D. A. Foote three years. Mr. Smith now conducts the large Wolcott gallery alone. His work includes viewing as well as portraits, and he is an adept at bromide enlargements. During the Spanish-American war Mr. Smith was engaged in illustrating songs, that is making pictures from life to represent the essential features of a song and then transferring the views to lantern slides to be thrown upon a curtain as the singer proceeds with the song. His work in that line went out with the best known traveling companies all over the United States, and included the most popular song writers' works. Mr. Smith was born in Summitville, Coffee Co., Tenn., in 1873. He married Anna M. Michel of Huron and they have three children, Durward,

Corrine and Gladys. He is active in the Odd Fellows' lodge and holds high positions in the N. P. L.

**Dr. J. N. Robertson**, the well known practicing physician of Wolcott, has followed his profession successfully in this village for more than a quarter of a century. Active in public matters the doctor has taken no small interest in promoting the welfare of the community. As a member of the Board of Education at the time the handsome public school building was constructed he assisted materially in not only securing the best construction of the new building but personally planned the sanitary conveniences that have made the school a modern structure. He was a member of the Board twelve years and served some time as president of the Board. He also served as Health officer of the town and village several years.

Dr. Robertson was born in the town of Wolcott June 10, 1853. Daniel Robertson, his grandfather, a native of Scotland and a branch of one of the old Scottish families, was an early settler in Wolcott and it was he who cleared the land now known as the homestead, five miles east of Wolcott village which is still in the family. Daniel also developed the iron ore bed known as the Devoe, which supplied ore for the old furnace. John, his son, who married Harriet Cooper, took the old farm and fully developed and improved it.

Dr. Robertson received his early schooling in Union Seminary at Red Creek. Teaching school and employing private tutors he prepared for higher studies afterwards taking two years of college work. He began reading medicine with Dr. F. M. Pasco of Red Creek and two years later went into the office of Dr. R. N. Cooley of Hannibal Centre, N. Y. Graduated at the University of Vermont in 1877 he first practiced medicine at Sterling Valley, beginning in 1878 and continuing until 1879 when he located in Wolcott.

Dr. Robertson since completing his medical studies has taken a post-graduate course in New York, where he had the advantages of hospital practice and the most difficult cases came under his personal observation; this he has followed by occasional trips to New York for the purpose of keeping in touch with advanced ideas in medical knowledge.



J. N. ROBERTSON, M. D.

DR. J. N. ROBERTSON'S RESIDENCE.



On December 1, 1880, he married Anna May Howard of Sterling Valley and they have one daughter, Eva Lucille, born July 23, 1885, and who is now in Wellesley College. Dr. Robertson is now elder of the Presbyterian church, elected in 1885. He is also a member of the Masonic order.

**Reminiscences of Wolcott, 1817-'26;** Chester Dutton's Writings Describing the Early Families; Took Fourteen Days to Come from Auburn; Owners of Wolcott Falls; Wool Carders.—

Extracts from a letter of Chester Dutton to Mrs. A. J. Hovey:—

"My wife's farm was the homestead of her grandfather, Lambert Woodruff. He built the house in the summer of 1817. The 'Black-House farm' was a tract of 800 acres (lying east of the Russell and south half of Col. Wm. Dut-

but Wolcott with its water power was the logical metropolis of a promising farming district.

"A straight road was laid out to Sloop Landing, on Sodus Bay, whence sloops sailed to Kingston, Canada.

"The Church brothers, Adonijah and Osgood, took the lots on the north and south side of the road west of Black House farm. They were neighbors of Grandfather (Lambert) Woodruff at New Marlboro', Mass. Adonijah, who built the house where you live (the two-story part), had no son, I think, but his daughter was the wife of Obadiah Adams, the Pierpont Morgan of the occasion, and Wolcott developed rapidly. But the Erie canal, which was completed in 1825, knocked the town out, incidentally bankrupting Adams, and his father-in-law, Mr. Church, and also Mr. Melvin who were his backers.

"Lambert Woodruff, born in Watertown, Conn., in 1763, was a son of Capt. John Woodruff and Hannah Lambert of Watertown. Mr. Isaac Leavenworth of Wolcott, who attended the funeral of Capt. John Woodruff in 1799, said



Smith, Photo.

WOLCOTT TENT, NO. 248, K. O. T. M.

Lower Row (seated; left to right):—E. J. Lasher, Hiram McQueen, George Bush, Ira Campbell, Lewis Wright, Lester Medan. Second Row: Charles Hurter, Alfred Michael, A. M. Jurden, Wm. Palmer, L. W. Knapp, J. R. Waldorf, Dr. S. W. Houston, Daniel Bennett. Third Row: Rufus Wadsworth, Wm. Silliman, Wm. Brown, Roe Madan, Devereaux Cleveland, Andrew Thomas, Walter Messenger, Henry Wellet, Charles Miller, M. Cline, Dr. D. B. Horton, Charles Pitts, Fred Bevier, R. H. Kelley, Frank Edwards, Ernest Wadsworth. Upper Row: Oliver Bennett, — Harper, Lloyd Lewis, Earl Henry, Emmens Abbott, Wm. Bennett, Albert Richardson George Fox, Lucien Oathout.

ton farm), on which the village of Wolcott is located. The land not sold for village residences continued to be used for farming, and the tenant occupied the 'Black House', which was built by the first owner, Mr. Melvin. I think the 800-acre tract was known as lot No. 50 and was the first lot sold in Cayuga county. There was no Wayne county then. The lot was so laid out as to include the Wolcott Falls and the spring near Mr. Merrill's place.

"Grandfather (Lambert) Woodruff had heard of these features from hunters and hoped to secure them, but found the land already sold. He then bought about 600 acres adjoining lot 50 on the north, securing the spring brook for stock water and the lower rapids of Wolcott creek, which his son John afterwards sold with ten acres of land to the Furnace Company for \$1,000. Mr. Jonathan Melvin, the purchaser of lot No. 50, had a good farm in the township of Phelps,

it was observed with military honors. Lambert Woodruff married Mary (Polly) Nettleton. They bought a farm near the home of their parents, but after a few years sold out and moved to New Marlboro', Mass.

"About 1807 they traded their New Marlboro' holdings (two farms and a grist mill), for 1,428 acres in Williamson's Patent (some allotments were in Butler), and a little later started with their five boys and two girls and five yoke of oxen for their new home. Previous settlers had come by way of Geneva, but he proposed to come by way of Auburn. He hired men acquainted with the woods to help him through. They were fourteen days getting from Auburn to the east bank of Wolcott Falls.

"Grandmother Woodruff used to detail their hardships and privations during the first years, almost weeping, while he would laugh at the recital, but at length would straighten his face

and say, 'I had my teams paid for and \$500 in my pocket; and when that was gone we suffered.'

#### FIRST AND LAST OF WOOL CARDING.

"Grandfather Woodruff's son-in-law, Mr. Mellen, and Mr. Mellen's son-in-law, Cyrus Churchill, in 1843 or '44 built a little wool carding and cloth dressing factory on the creek just below Leavenworth Cemetery. The 'water privilege' had been first used for the same purpose by Caleb and Samuel Mellen who sold the business to Esq. Wilder, and he sold it to Mr. Galloway after whose occupancy it went into disuse. Mr. Churchill lived for a time in the garret of the factory and afterwards built a house near the cemetery and bought a road of Mr. Benedict. The house was later occupied by Mr. Dempsey,

lodge to move to and work in Wolcott village for one year which was renewed from year to year.

On February 10, 1884, the lodge was again burned out, where it was finely located in the west end of the third story of the Empire block. This time the lodge was insured. Nevertheless its loss of valuable antiquities was irreparable, including a charter for a Masonic lodge to work in the village of Wolcott which was signed by DeWitt Clinton, who was Grand Master of the Masons in the state of New York from 1806 to 1819 inclusive. This lodge was disbanded during the Morgan excitement. The lodge soon secured rooms where it is now very pleasantly located.

In June, 1889, by consent of the Grand Lodge this lodge was permanently located in the village of Wolcott.

On the 7th of June, 1894, the name was



Smith, Photo,

WOLCOTT LODGE, NO. 560 F. & A. M.

Lower Row (left to right):—Dr. Houston, Prof. Gurley, E. T. Phillips, Eugene Seymour, Newton Dusenbury, Herbert Wolvin, C. D. Walker. Next Row: Norton Merrill, U. G. Brewster, Dr. D. B. Horton, Dr. L. C. Jones, Arthur M. Jurden, J. E. Murphey, Gerry Salisbury, Wm. Lyttle. Third Row: George Hoffman, James Merrill, James Van Valkenburgh, E. H. Kellogg, Roy Hendrick, Merritt Fenn, Dr. Day, Wm. Olmstead, Charlie Nichols, B. S. Worden, W. Olmstead, Lemuel Sopher, Charles Graves, Ira Foster. Upper Row: Alden Hale, E. A. Wadsworth, E. J. Cornwell, B. T. Moore, Charles Woodruff, Robert De Witt, Jr., Fred King, Philip Hammer, Charles Hammer, Wm. Palmer.

and the factory was used for a tannery when we came west."

**Wolcott Lodge, No. 560, F. & A. M.**—[By J. Byron Smith]. A charter was granted to Red Creek Lodge, No. 560 F. & A. M. on June 19, 1865. The lodge prospered until the spring of 1874 when a serious fire destroyed a large part of the business places of Red Creek. The lodge lost everything including books and charter, with no insurance. A new charter was granted June 5, 1874. After this the lodge existed but was never able to regain its former prestige; although the widow and orphan are living who speak in its praise.

In 1880 a dispensation was granted for the

changed to Wolcott lodge, No. 560, F. & A. M. The lodge has enjoyed a wonderful period of prosperity since coming to Wolcott. The membership now numbers 144.

The following is the list of those who have been Worshipful Master of the lodge, the names appearing in the order in which they were elected:—Rev. S. P. Croschier; James H. Cooper; I. F. Mosher; F. M. Pasco; D. D. Becker; G. M. Coplin, Jr.; W. W. Lyttle; Charles Cromwell; J. Byron Smith; G. G. Salisbury; J. W. Hoag; J. Alden Hale; F. A. Prevost; John D. Otis; George W. Roe; R. H. Kelley; A. M. Jurden. The first four of this list are dead.

The Present Officers:—W. Master, A. M. Jurden; Senior Warden, J. A. Murphey; Junior



Warden, F. L. Watson; Secretary, G. G. Salsbury; Treasurer, N. W. Merrill; Chaplain, Dr. D. B. Horton; Senior Deacon, Dr. H. W. Day; Junior Deacon, M. H. Fenn; Senior and Junior Masters of Ceremony, Dr. S. W. Houston and C. D. Walker; Senior and Junior Stewards, M. VanPatten and H. R. Lyle; Marshal, W. W. Lyttle; Organist, B. T. Moore.

**Jonathan Melvin** as Described in Historical Sketches Written by Hiram Church; An Eccentric yet Loveable Character:—

Jonathan Melvin, the first settler in Wolcott, is spoken of in one of the late Hiram Church's newspaper historical sketches, as first having located his family in an old log house. His first clearing was about ten acres and he set out the first apple orchard in the town: it was very choice fruit and he procured it from Phelps, N. Y., his former home.

"Other early settlers planted the apple seeds they procured from the old Castle farm near Geneva. Mr. Melvin had a fine young orchard

His hat, the old Yankee style, and to complete his suit always wore buckskin aprons—one for work and also one for Sunday-go-to-meeting; was very regular in attending religious meetings on the Sabbath.

"He was a kind and good man, always ready to help those that were worthy, and was a man much loved by those of his acquaintances.

"He was possessed at that time of a large property, had a splendid farm in Phelps of 500 or 600 acres on what was called Melvin Hill and considerable personal property. The first settlers in Wolcott felt under great obligations to Mr. Melvin for the help they at that time received from him. He moved back to Phelps on his farm about 1822; his son Alanson managed the farm at Wolcott."

**Croquet** Played by a Wolcott Club.—Some years ago several business men of Wolcott maintained a croquet club which frequently amused the public with games, good, bad and indifferent, on grounds in the rear of Turpenning's store. The rear windows in the business row along there afforded "reserved seats" for the ladies,



Smith, Photo. THE PASTMASTERS. WOLCOTT LODGE NO. 560, F. & A. M.

First Row (seated; left to right):—J. Byron Smith, D. D. Becker, J. A. Hale, W. W. Lyttle, J. D. Otis.  
Upper Row: George W. Roe, G. G. Salsbury, R. H. Kelly, A. M. Jurden.

in Phelps and he frequently furnished those who wanted apples.

#### OLD MILL SITE.

"A year or two after Mr. Melvin came in he sold to Obadiah Adams his grist and saw mills, which now include the privilege and land owned by Mr. Rumsey and Mr. Middaugh; consideration \$10,000." [See "Wolcott; Earliest Industries," etc., page 4 for other sales of Melvin's].

#### MELVIN'S PECULIARITIES.

"About the year 1813 Mr. Melvin built a large two-story frame house, and moved in the same year, on the rise of ground now owned by Willis Roe. It was a very substantial structure and his peculiar fancy was in painting. He painted the house black—as black as lampblack and oil could make it. It was the great wonder of all who saw it why he should fancy such a color. He was very peculiar about many things. He was asked how he could fancy such a color. His reply was, 'Like to see things correspond; if my character is black I paint the house so.'

#### MELVIN'S SUNDAY APRONS.

"The dress he wore was about as singular.

many of whom were occasional witnesses of the game. That is to say, finding time heavy on their hands and desiring a bit of the spectacular the ladies would now and then throng windows overlooking the grounds where they could get points on the comparative virtues and weaknesses of the sterner sex which were sure to be disclosed in a game of croquet.

Willis Roe, George Roe, William Roe, A. B. Thacker, Stearnes Williams, Clinton Terpenning, George H. Russell, George S. Horton, George Graves, J. S. Terrill, F. S. Johnson and M. E. Cornwall were members of the club. The grounds were level and well cared for. They used small rubber balls and the mallets were tipped with rubber. As the passage through the wickets was narrow considerable skill was required to "carry" a ball any great distance. The records of those games were not preserved. A phonographic reproduction of what could have been heard on the grounds during one of the games would draw a large crowd of listeners in Wolcott to-day.



Smith, Photo.

C. M. DELLING,  
Editor and Proprietor Wolcott Courier.

**C. H. Allen** began the manufacture of fruit extracts three years ago and the purity of his extracts has given them a wide sale, making a reputation for the village in superior goods. Mr. Allen was for nineteen years a merchant in Wolcott and he is widely known through the county.

**Charles M. Delling**, editor and proprietor of the Wolcott Courier which he founded, issued the first number of that paper March 6, 1901, coming from Syracuse for that purpose and giving the people of Wolcott and vicinity what they demanded but could not previously get, a good family, weekly newspaper for one dollar a year and the opportunity for good job printing at reasonable prices. The policy of the Courier is to

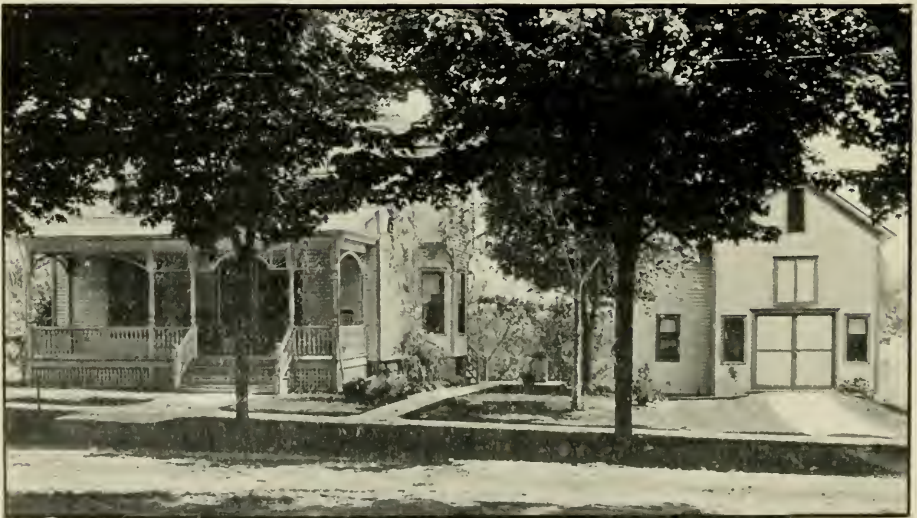
boom Wolcott village as a matter of duty which it owes to itself and its constituency. This is the policy pursued by modern journalism today, whether in city or country, and the Courier is not behind the press in other fields in that respect. Mr. Delling was born in Minnesota, July 11, 1857, and came to Wolcott in 1883. Three years later he went to Syracuse and was in business there five years. He has been connected with newspaper and job work twenty-five years. He is a writer of fiction and verse and has published books of his writings.

**Post Rider** in Pioneer Days; The Route of the Mail; Dr. Arne kept the Mail in His Kitchen:

"Giles Fitch was the first mail carrier," wrote Hiram Church in his historic sketches. "He carried the mail on horseback from the postoffice kept by David Arne at Wolcott to Auburn once a week and back. The mail route was south on New Hartford street to Spencers Corners via Eli Wheeler's, now [1884] H. H. Wheeler's, to Harrington's, now South Butler, via Morris Crow's, the Pine woods and Mosquito Point. There was then no postoffice between Wolcott and Seneca river. Later Mr. Fitch carried the mail with wagon and horses. The mail road was the principal traveled road from Wolcott to Auburn for several years.

#### POSTOFFICE IN CUPBOARD.

"Dr. Arne was a practicing physician for several years. He was the first postmaster in the town. The Doctor being absent from his home most of his time and Mrs. Arne being always at home she was in fact the postmistress. The duties of the office at that date were not very laborious, nor much strife in procuring it. One candidate in the field would be all that was known, and he not very desirous at that. A small cupboard in the kitchen department of the house was where the postoffice was kept. He had it for several years."



Borrowed Photo.

C. H. ALLEN'S RESIDENCE.





HENRY A. GRAVES.

CHARLES GRAVES.

**Henry A. Graves** is one of the oldest of the men engaged in business in Wolcott at this time. Some forty odd years ago Mr. Graves bought out the firm of Allen & Beard who were then carrying on a general merchandise business in a frame building on the present site of the Graves Opera House Block. Their business was founded some years prior to the time of Allen & Beard who succeeded A. Cook. He afterwards went to Seneca Falls in business.

During the long period that Mr. Graves has done business in Wolcott his trade has been with a wide circle in the farming community, and has included people residing in the small hamlets about Wolcott; so that few business men in the northern part of the county are better known than Mr. Graves.

To him the growth and betterment of this village are of vital interest, and his time and means are always to be relied upon to assist in carrying out a public project that admittedly tends to those ends. It is not overstating the case to say that H. A. Graves' opinion in matters of that sort carries much weight with the community and he is one among the first to be consulted.

It was when he was president of the village—and to him belongs the credit of the initiation of the project—that the present effective fire department was created. He was made the first fire chief to fully develop the plan of the department, and with the aid of energetic men he succeeded

in effecting his purpose. The details are fully discussed in the History of the Fire Department. He was retained as Fire Chief eleven years and the efficiency of the department is the fruit of his long and active service. He was president of the village four terms and has served as school trustee six years. Wolcott village owes much to his public spirit and personal activity, as it does to others with whom he has labored for years in making it the most progressive of Wayne county villages.

H. A. Graves was born in Tully, Onondaga county, Nov. 10, 1836. George S. Graves, his father, was a manufacturer of cloth at that place. In 1844 the family moved to South Butler, which was the home of H. A. Graves until he was nineteen years old. He attended school there and afterwards was a student in the academies at Onondaga Valley and McGrawville.

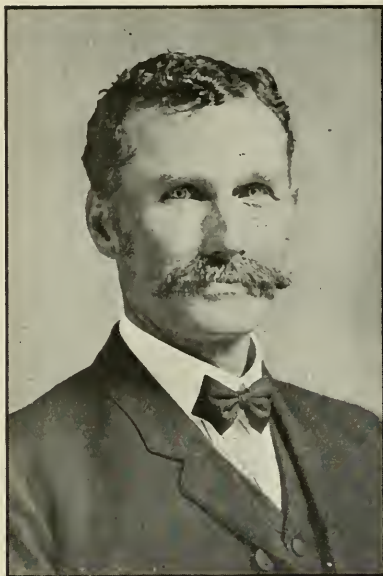
Both institutions in those days ranked high as schools for advanced scholars.

Mr. Graves' first lessons in practical business came to him through his clerkship in the Community store at Red Creek, when he was seventeen years old. At Hall & Quivey's in the same village he also clerked awhile. Then he went to Ottawa, Ill., and for three years engaged in business as one of the the firm of Graves & Chapel. The succeeding three years he was connected



Smith, Photo.

GRAVES' OPERA HOUSE BLOCK AND STORE.



R. H. COLE.

with a Philadelphia mapping house, after which with his brother, C. H. Graves, he engaged in trade at South Butler. From there he came to Wolcott, as above stated. Up to a year ago Mr. Graves handled evaporated fruit, beginning with "taking in" dried apples at his store and at last increasing his operations to a large scale. Mr. Graves did a large jobbing in evaporated fruit when he owned the warehouse now belonging to E. H. Reed & Co. In the fire of 1871 his place of business was burned out while he was in New York buying goods. The loss was considerable, but without delay he re-stocked another store and finally bought the building which he now owns and in which he and others are doing business. The upper part is an opera house, in which entertainments have been given for years, and which is an important institution for the village. Mr. Graves married Sarah Viele of the town of Butler, to whom was born one son, Charles Graves.

**Bonnycastle** is located on the east shore of Great Sodus Bay six miles west of Wolcott and three miles south-east of Sodus Point. This resort is a popular mecca for summer pilgrims, seeking rest and recreation where they can spend their time on the shore of a fine body of water, away from the disagreeable features incident to many resorts.

Bonnycastle for fifteen years has been a famous picnic ground where the churches, Sunday schools, fraternities, and family gatherings have come year after year. Here they find clean greenswards and groves on high ground

overlooking the lake with the usual out-of-doors amusements, croquet, swings, boating, baseball and driving.

Bonnycastle has become widely known as the annual camping ground of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Association of Wayne county. This Association, including the G. A. R. of the county, is chartered and generally turns out at these reunions thousands of the Old Vets and their friends. Here they obtain spacious, clean and well shaded camp sites, with plenty of pure and wholesome water. There being no liquors sold at Bonnycastle the disorderly element never come here. One of these re-unions numbered as high as five thousand in attendance and 180 tents were put up. The camp is always continued an entire week. The association which has been coming to Bonnycastle for eleven years, experimented by going elsewhere and suffered financially for making the change. On such occasions people seek congeniality and rest which the changes did not offer.

Mr. Cole keeps a gasoline launch solely for the use of his family and guests. It was built to his order and accommodates twenty-five passengers. Mr. Cole has owned the property and been located here seventeen years. It comprises fifty-seven acres of lawns, groves, orchard and a vegetable farm, furnishing cream and vegetables for guests. There are also pretty cottages and sites for others. Mr. Cole was born in Seneca county and has been a resident of Wayne county thirty years.

**Sodus Bay;** Magnificent Scenery; Splendid Summer Resort: The Indians who Frequented the Bay gave to it the name Assorodus, "silvery water:"—

There is no finer body of water opening into the south side of Lake Ontario. The bay enters a cove of the lake protected on either hand by headlands. Across its neck is about a mile. Inland it widens to the distance of four miles. Its length from north to south is nearly seven miles.

The shore in many places rises to imposing heights, here and there forming bold headlands which make splendid sites for summer homes and which in some cases have been occupied for that purpose. The waters of the bay, well pro-



Borrowed Cut.

BONNICASTLE, R. H. COLE, PROPRIETOR.



tected from the seas that at times roll up across the lake afford admirable sailing room. The islands offer camping and fishing grounds. Along the lake both east and west are fine drives overlooking on one hand the lake and on the other beautiful land scenery.

#### HISTORIC SODUS.

The historic associations give added interest to the bay for those who love to spend idle time dreaming of the past. There are few points along the beautiful Ontario that are better adapted to summer visitors, and in the past few years Sodus Bay has grown in popularity.

#### MAGNIFICENT LANDSCAPE.

Mr. Charles Williamson, American agent for the Pultney estate who opened the country hereabouts to settlements in the latter years of the eighteenth century, in 1793 wrote of the scenery as follows—at a time before the country became settled;—"The first view of the place (Sodus Bay), after passing through a timbered country from Geneva twenty-eight miles, strikes the eye of the beholder as one of the most magnificent landscapes human fancy can picture; and the beauty of the scene is not infrequently heightened by the appearance of large vessels navigating the lake."

#### SUMMER COTTAGES.

The erection of hotels and summer cottages, and the construction of trolley lines have in late years attracted many visitors to the Bay. The roads leading to many pretty villages in the vicinity have been greatly improved and those who are fortunate enough to recuperate at Sodus spend their time to advantage fishing, driving or sailing.

Charles Point, Sand Point, Lake Bluff, Eagle and Newark Islands, Bonnicastle and Resort are famous summer home ports on the Bay which attract thousands of people annually.

### SODUS POINT EARLY HISTORY.

LAKE PORT AND CITY ONCE SURVEYED AND PLOTTED; MEN WHO FIRST SETTLED HERE; EARLIEST INDUSTRIES; OLD LIGHT HOUSES.

Charles Williamson, the American Agent for the Pultenay estate, and at one time proprietor of all the section washed by Sodus Bay, in 1794 selected the point on the west side of the entrance to the bay—now occupied by Sodus Point village—for a large town. No other place on the south shore of the lake offered as large and attractive harbor, and it was his design to provide conveniences for shipping the products of the new country he was then opening up to settlement to the seaboard by water. He cut roads through the woods from Palmyra and Phelps to Sodus Point, that the produce of the country several miles to the south of those places might be carted to his proposed lake port.

#### BIG TOWN SURVEYED.

The survey of the proposed town was at once begun by Joseph Colt, who laid out a broad street, with a large public square, between the falls on Salmon Creek and the anchorage on the bay. The lots inside of the proposed corporation

contained a quarter of an acre to a lot and those outside ten acres. The in-lots, as the first were called, were to be sold at \$100 each and the out-lots at four dollars an acre. The farming lands in the vicinity were to be offered at \$1.50 an acre. Thomas Little and one named Moffit were appointed the agents for the sale of the lots.

#### BUILT WHARFS AND BOAT.

The same year (1794) Williamson erected a tavern and a wharf and launched a large boat. During the following year other improvements were made by him, including the erection of mills on the stream above the bay, so that in the course of two years he spent about \$20,000 at Sodus Point. A big town with streets running at right angles and squares was laid out on paper, but very little was materially done to carry out his project.

#### TAVERN AND MILLS.

The tavern, which was a cheap affair costing about \$500, was opened and for a while conducted by Moses and Jabez Sill. The grist and saw mills stood on Salmon creek two miles west of the bay. Both stood until about 1807 when they went down in a large freshet. A saw mill was erected about 1795 by Timothy Axtell for Judge Nichols.

#### INDIANS CALLED IT ASSORODUS.

Among the early industries at the Point were those of John Wafer, blacksmith, David McNutt, shoemaker, and Capt. Wm. Wickham, James Kane, John McAllister, John Gibson, Thomas Wickham and a Mr. Sage, merchants.

The first postoffice in the town of Sodus was established at the Point under the name of Sodus, an abbreviation of the Indian name Assorodus—"Sodus." A few years later the Point was generally called Troupville after Robert Troup of New York, but that name was never officially attached to the place.

#### THE LIGHTHOUSES.

The first lighthouse was built about 1820 and between 1828 and 1834 piers were erected by Wm. Barckley and E. W. Sentell, government contractors. Subsequently the lighthouse was rebuilt and a second one was erected. Since then breakwaters have been constructed and several appropriations have been expended in deepening and clearing the channel leading into the Bay.

**New Marlboro' Settlers.**—Those who came to Wolcott from New Marlboro', Mass., were Lambert Woodruff, Osgood Church, Adonijah Church, Zenas Wheeler, Jarvis Mudge, John Hyde, James Alexander, Dr. Zenas Hyde, Levi Wheeler, Roger Sheldon, Obadiah Adams, Deacon Ezra Knapp, Charles Woodruff and John Woodruff. Jarvis Mudge bought land and speculated in horses and cattle. He also largely engaged in lumbering. Dr. Zenas Hyde was a physician of note among the early settlers. Lambert Woodruff bought a tract of land north of the village, adjoining the Black House farm.

**Brick Yard** back of the Churches. On the village green—in the rear of the site of the two churches—Nelson W. Moore burned brick for the erection of many buildings that were put up following the fire of 1871.



WILLIAM DUTTON.

**William Dutton** was born in Watertown, Ct., Jan. 14, 1824, the descendant of an English family that came to this country early in its colonial period, and of whom there was a long line of educators and Congregational clergymen, including a Governor of Connecticut who was William Dutton's uncle. When the subject of this sketch was fourteen years old he went to Mecklenburgh, then in Tompkins, now in Schuyler county,

where he engaged in farm work summers and studied and taught winters.

At the age of eighteen years he received an appointment to West Point Military school through United States Senator Morgan of Cayuga county, going on foot to Aurora to solicit the honor from the Senator, without influence to support his claim. In 1846 he was graduated at that institution. While drilling a company on Staten Island he received a sunstroke which prevented him accepting a post in the United States army, located in California. That year he came to Wolcott to visit his brother, Chester Dutton. Having married about the time he left West Point he decided to make his home near Wolcott, and in March, 1847, he located on a farm near West Butler which he had purchased. Mr. Dutton's bride was Lucy J. Matthews, whose home was in Mecklenburgh. Their wedding occurred on June 24, 1846.

At the time Colonel—then Captain—Dutton came to Butler he and Mrs. Dutton united with the Presbyterian church at Wolcott. Up to the time he left home for the army he was an active church and Sunday school worker, being the superintendent of the Sunday school and elder in the church many years and also conducting a Sunday school in the schoolhouse at Whisky Hill. While residing in Butler he taught school at times in the village of Wolcott and filled the offices of school commissioner for the county and justice of the peace.

In 1851 he moved on to what has since been known as the Col. Dutton farm at Wolcott which he purchased of the Underhill estate the same year. He was elected member of assembly that year and served a full term.

At the outbreak of the war, 1861-'5, he tendered his services to the Government and was



Smith, Photo.

THE BANKING HOUSE OF ROE & ELLIS,  
ESTABLISHED IN 1875.



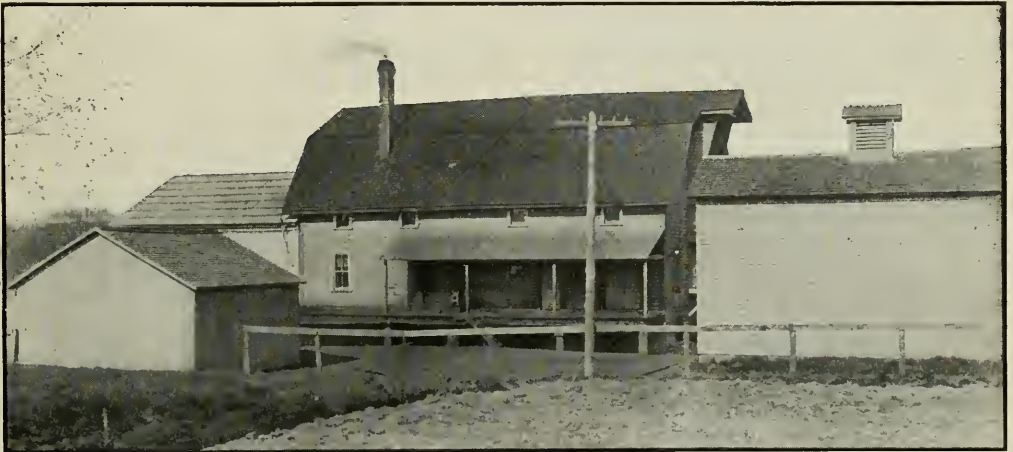
accepted and appointed Colonel of the 93th regiment, New York volunteers, which he assisted in recruiting and drilling at Lyons. It was in April, 1862, that he was commissioned and went into active service. On July 4, 1863, at the home of an old classmate in New York he died, having been taken violently ill with typhoid fever at the battle of Fair Oaks, where he fell out of the saddle and was sent to the hospital, leaving many personal effects which fell into the enemy's hands.

Mrs. Wm. Dutton at the age of eighty-four still resides on the old place at Wolcott with her daughter, Mrs. A. J. Hovey and family. Julius, her son, also resides there. Seymour, another son, resides at Perth Amboy, N. J. Two sons, John and William, are dead.

**The Sodus Co-Operative Creamery Company** established the Wolcott branch in 1902 and placed Mr. Peter Langwell as the local manager. This creamery produces both butter and cheese and markets cream. The capacity is 1,500 or

& Parks found a bed six miles east which supplied good ore for several years. On the death of Andrew Chapin Levi Hendrick and Uriah Seymour, who had been employed by the old firm, carried on the business. Seymour finally sold out and the furnace was carried on several years by Hendrick & Leavenworth.

**Butterfields** — Jacob Butterfield, coming to Wolcott in 1811 bought three acres from Osgood Church and erected a tannery where he tanned leather and made shoes. His sons, Jacob and William, spoken of in the reminiscences elsewhere, hired or worked land on shares, on different farms near the village, including (according to Amos Nash) the Lambert Woodruff and the Ben Underhill farms. Amos Nash plowed the flats along New Hartford street while working for one of them. They ran the stage line—or one of them did—in the palmy days of stage coaches; were in the hotel business and ran a livery.



Borrowed Photo.

SODUS CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY CO., WOLCOTT BRANCH.

2,000 pounds of butter a day, which is shipped to the large cities. As many as 180 dairymen supply the creamery with milk. The cream from two other stations, North Wolcott and Westbury, is churned here. Last year over \$40,000 were paid at this creamery for milk. Mr. Langwell has been with the company since it was started in Sodus, over ten years.

**Blast Furnace**—This, the earliest big manufacturing plant in Wolcott, was first erected in the gulf, in the present village limits about 1825, by Obadiah Adams, who thought that he could clear up his indebtedness by making plow castings from the products of the furnace. A short time after it was started he was dispossessed and taken to Lyons, "on the jail limits" by his creditors. He soon obtained his liberty and went to Rochester. The timber used in this furnace was cut from the adjacent land.

Soon after Adams' furnace shut down, Andrew Chapin came from Massachusetts and erected a blast furnace a mile north of the village on the creek, where a considerable bed of ore had been discovered. The ore proved worthless and Chapin

**Justices' Court Cases Prior to 1822**—Jesse Mathews, a farmer out on New Hartford street who died in 1822 was justice of the peace. His "docket" is still in possession of his son [see Lawson Mathews' Reminiscences]. It is interesting as showing men in business and farming at that early day who "joined issue" in the Justice's court. There are several pages in Jesse Mathews' own hand writing, not showing the cause at issue, however. Some have been copied, viz.:

Zenas Wheeler and Lorin Doolittle, surveyor, v. David Arne, jr.

Joseph Spencer v. John Grandy.

Lambert Woodruff v. B. L. Clark.

Asel Foster v. Peter Eastman.

Richard Redfield v. John C. Smith.

Benjamin Grunelin v. John C. Smith.

Jacob Butterfield v. Peter Eastman.

Zina Hull v. James Smith and Abijah Moore.

Obadiah Adams v. Levi Savage.

S. V. Ganet v. Thomas Foster.



Smith, Photo.

J. G. STRAIT'S COAL AND LUMBER OFFICES, ELEVATOR AND YARDS.

**The Paddock Hardware Business**, established in 1857 by W. W. Paddock, is now owned by his son Wm. H. Paddock, who became a partner with his father in 1891 and who upon the death of W. W. Paddock in November, 1903, became his successor. The building in which the store is located and the storehouse in the rear are owned by Wm. H. Paddock. Plumbing added to the business in recent years is an important part of it. Two floors are occupied in the store, but the business has outgrown the storehouse and a larger building will be erected next year. In the meantime Mr. Paddock has had to resort to outside structures for displaying farm machinery. The continued expansion of the business is fully assured.

**J. G. Strait** began business in Wolcott on the present site of his lumber and coal yards in 1884

and has since continued it in the same place. Mr. Strait bought the old Chapin & Tompkins chair factory and erected all of the present buildings and yards. He handles principally the Lehigh Valley coal, having an elevator which stores about a thousand tons.

**Osgood Church** for five years was one of the agents of the Pultenay estate, from 1808 to 1813. After that the business was transacted at Geneva. From Wolcott Mr. Church took prospective buyers over the adjacent lands and four years following the organization of the town he surveyed all of the roads. In 1814 he was elected supervisor. His death occurred March 15, 1815, and he was buried in the cemetery on the old Methodist church property. William Church is his sole survivor.



Smith, Photo.

THE PADDOCK HARDWARE BUSINESS, W. H. PADDOCK, PROPRIETOR.





Smith, Photo.

CAMPBELL & GREEN BLOCK. CORNER MAIN ST. AND LAKE AVE.

**W. D. Campbell**, who is the oldest clothing man in town, began business in the corner block which now comprises a part of his place of business, in 1874. Before coming here he purchased the building on the corner of C. P. Smith, the ground floor of which had only a single store. In 1877 he built the three-story brick block adjoining on Lake avenue, which with the other building gives him double stores. Mr. Campbell's lines are clothing, furnishing goods, hats and

Woodruff, daughter of Lambert Woodruff; John Melvin, son of Jonathan Melvin, Sr.; Rev. Daniel Butterick, the earliest clergyman; Huldah Seymour, daughter of Noah Seymour who was afterwards Mrs. John Roe; Prudence Wells (Mrs. Jedediah Wilder; Wm. Plank, son of Elisha Plank; Loren Doolittle; Austin Roe; Harlow Hyde; Levi Hendrick; Barabus Knapp; Mr. McFarlin; Willis Roe.

caps, trunks., suit cases, watches, clocks, diamonds and jewelry.

**Sopher & Wolven**, who conducted the meat market on Lake Avenue, bought the Whitbeck market over a year and a half ago. They employ two wagons in delivering meat through the adjacent country. The members of the firm are L. D. Sopher and H. J. Wolven, both of whom are experienced in the business.

#### School Teachers—

The earliest teachers in the public schools of Wolcott included the following:—Mary



Smith, Photo.

L. D. SOPHER.

SOPHER & WOLVEN'S MARKET.

H. J. WOLVEN.



Smith Photo.

THE HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.

Lower Row (left to right):—Earll Brown, Leon Bidwell, Theda Doud, Pearl Hayner, Mrs. Leon Strait, Arthur Fsh, Claud Mitchell. Upper Row: Ned Kellogg, Porter Brockway, Halsey Lovejoy, Clayton Seaver, Prof. R. B. Gurley

**Chester Dutton**, born at Watertown, Ct., March 24, 1814, graduated at Yale in 1840, came to Wolcott in 1842 and about that time married Mary Mellin, the granddaughter of Lambert Woodruff. Chester Dutton is descended from Thomas Dutton who with his brother John came to Worcester, Mass., in 1630. Mr. and Mrs. Dutton succeeded to the Lambert Woodruff homestead, now occupied by Mr. McIntyre, and resided on that place until about 1867 or '68, when they moved to Cloud county, Kansas, with a family of seven children where since then they have resided. They were among the first white settlers on the Republican river where they passed through the trying ordeal of Indian alarms. The country now

is largely settled and greatly improved, chiefly devoted to raising corn and livestock. During the earliest years of their residence in Kansas their home was the stopping place for homeseekers going west in "prairie schooners," and they received the kindest attention from Mrs. Dutton, which gave to her the name of "mother of emigrants."

Both are still living surrounded by children and grandchildren, Mr. Dutton ninety-one years old attending quite regularly to his business. Mrs. Dutton is eighty-seven years old. Both enjoy driving and take long rides when the weather permits.

**The School;** Some of the Early Teachers; The Cost of the Handsome School Building:—

It is not a meaningless statement to say that the big public school of Wolcott village where 500 scholars are taught from the primary branches and including the preparatory courses for college work, is an imposing, handsome building, in all respects a gem. There is no better public school edifice; that is, one more beautiful or convenient. Its beauty of architectural lines is greatly enhanced by the most favored of sites which the structure occupies—its command of the village from high ground sloping in the four directions to the streets enclosing it and



Smith Photo.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Left to Right:—Joel Fanning, George S. Roe, Dr. R. H. Watkins, Edward Kellogg. Standing: Wm. Stone.





Smith, Photo. LEAVENWORTH INSTITUTE AND WOLCOTT HIGH SCHOOL.

embracing five acres of as beautiful a campus as a school ever had without an obstruction of any sort to mar its scenic effects, crossed by broad promenades leading in four directions between rows of lofty trees and having a well graded athletic field.

The building was erected in 1895, its cost, including all expenses connected with clearing the ground, being \$27,000. The ground was that which the village already owned, the site of the old Leavenworth Institute originally the gift of Isaac Leavenworth, the founder of the Institute.

The building has sixteen lecture and recitation

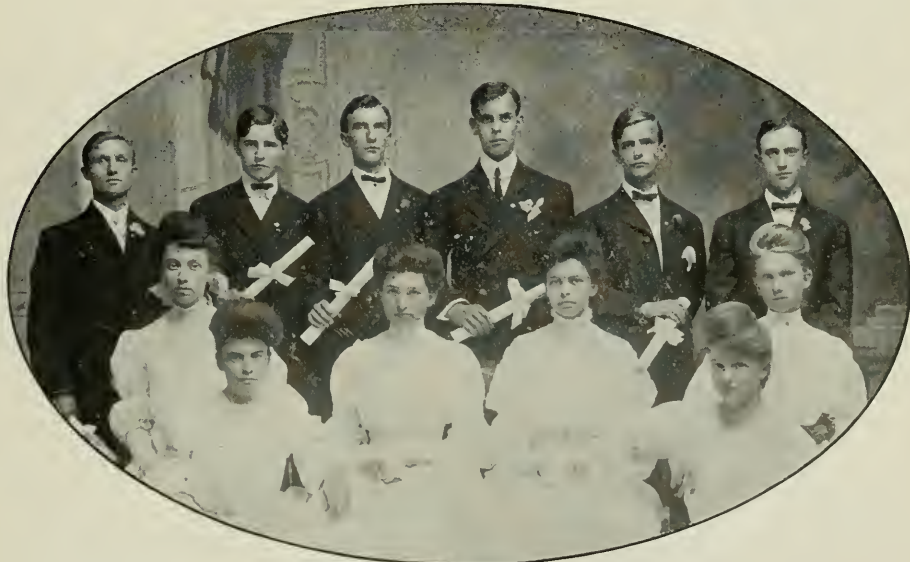
rooms and an auditorium seating one thousand persons. It is heated by hot air system and lighted by electricity. The library comprises several hundred volumes of well selected reference works, textbooks and standard works on history, literature and science and makes a complete working library opened to students and the public during sessions. The physical and chemical laboratories are fully equipped with modern apparatus for full and complete courses in practical and experimental work in each subject.

The school at present employs twelve teachers. Prepares for all courses in college. Has a State Training Class for teachers, and offers courses in music and painting. In

1901 the Regents gave the school the rank of a high school and the old Leavenworth Institute now bears the name of "Leavenworth Institute and Wolcott High School."

The Leavenworth Institute building was erected in 1856, one-half of the cost being defrayed by the Hon. Isaac Leavenworth, who donated the site, and the other half by subscriptions. The old public hall in the village for several years was in this building. [See view of this building on page 31. Earlier school history of the village is to be found on other pages.]

The first principal in the Institute was M. J.



Smith, Photo.

GRADUATING CLASS, WOLCOTT HIGH SCHOOL, 1905.

Ladies (left to right):—Mary Newberry, Ella Bird, Grace Seeley, Bessie Merrill, Cecil Horton, Jennie Loveless. Gentlemen: Earl Brown, Earl Horton, John Taylor, George Catchpole, Leon Bidwell, Willis Rathbun.



E. W. NEWBERRY.

Slee, and the first president of the Board of Trustees was Dr. James M. Wilson [See Frontispiece.]

When in 1865 the old public school building was destroyed by fire the Leavenworth Institute and the Union Free school were consolidated. Nov. 1, 1865 and reorganized as Union Free School District No. 1 of the towns of Wolcott, Huron and Butler. The new district paid a debt of the Leavenworth Institute of \$250 and refunded \$260 to the Leavenworth heirs.

#### FIRST BOARD OF EDUCATION.

On November 4, 1865, the following Board of Education was elected:—Dr. James M. Wilson, Jedediah Wilder, E. N. Plank, J. Talcott, B. F. Peck, Wm. H. Thacker, W. W. Paddock, T. W. Collins, C. P. Smith, R. Sours, J. S. Roe, L. Millington and R. Matthews. E. N. Plank was president, W. W. Paddock treasurer, and Chester Dutton secretary and librarian. This was the first Board of Education of this village.

The first term opened December 12, 1865, with John Teller as principal and Miss Tappan preceptress. Among later

principals of the school were Amos H. Thompson, Professor Hutton, M. T. Brown, C. T. R. Smith, Jefferson W. Hoag, Professor Baldwin, John T. Cothran, W. R. Vosburgh, Edward Hayward, E. B. Nichols, John W. Robinson, E. D. Niles, H. J. Walters, J. W. Fowler, H. N. Tallman and L. H. Carris.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

President, R. H. Watkins, M. D.; Vice-President, Willis M. Stone; Commissioners, George W. Roe and E. H. Kellogg; Secretary, Joel Fanning. Employes, Alfred Prevost, Truant Officer; Clark A. Leffer, Janitor.

[Continued on Page 81.]

**A. Wells & Co.** formed the co-partnership two years ago to carry on the old established market which Mr. Albert Wells had been conducting for nearly thirty years. Mr. Wells has always been engaged in the meat business and is widely known throughout this section of the county. He has a farm just out of the village and the steer shown in the accompanying picture is evidence of the kind of stock he raises on that place.

**Eben Wilson Newberry** began business in Wolcott in September, 1874, undertaking and hardware, at the corner of Main and Mill streets. In March, 1884, he fitted up the old Presbyterian church building on the south side of Main street for undertaking and the furniture business. From 1897 until 1902 he was in the middle west. Then he returned to Wolcott and is in charge of the undertaking business of his son, E. Merritt Newberry, on Lake avenue. E. M. Newberry runs the undertaking and furniture business at North Rose where he is erecting a large building for his business. As soon as it can be arranged E. M. Newberry will open a furniture store in Wolcott.

E. W. Newberry was born in Huron, N. Y., June 3, 1841, and was educated at Leavenworth Institute and Falley Seminary. In August, 1862, he enlisted at Huron in Co. D, Ninth N. Y. V. Heavy Artillery. He was discharged in June, 1865, having served until he was made prisoner of war in the defenses at Washington and the Army of the Potomac. He was captured at the battle of Monococcy July 9, 1864, and was in the rebel prisons nearly eight months, until he was exchanged near the close of the war, being confined at various places but a greater part of the time at Dannsville, Va.

Mr. Newberry has been active in the G. A. R. since it was organized and is the secretary of the Ninth Heavy Artillery Association. He was formerly quite active in politics and has served as coroner of Wayne county twelve years.

He has two sons and two daughters: J. Myrta of New York city, E. Merritt of North Rose and Mary A. and Bradner F. of Wolcott.



Smith, Photo.

A. WELLS &amp; CO.'S MEAT MARKET.



**The Palace Hotel** was opened April 1, 1905, by Mr. Ira J. Foster, the present proprietor. Mr. Foster bought the building, the whole upper part of which is occupied by the hotel. The office occupies part of the ground floor and the other part is rented for a store. Mr. Foster has secured a central location and caters to commercial trade. He has conducted an hotel in Wolcott four or five years and understands how to cater to the wants of the traveling public.

**J. A. Murphey's** variety store is an illustration of the success a hustling, energetic man may achieve. From a small beginning Mr. Murphey has built up a business which is one of the best paying and second to no other of its kind in Wolcott. In this store, packed to the walls with goods, is to be found most any article which a merchant is able to handle. Mrs. Murphey who understands trade as well as anyone assists her husband, and to her much credit is due for the success of the business.

Mr. Murphey's first place of business was in the Northup Block, opened in 1884, where he handled sewing machines and musical instruments. Then he moved into the next store (now Knapp's) where two years later he started a va-

riety store. Gradually he added new lines of goods until his regular stock comprised everything convenient to handle even to the outfitting



Smith, Photo.

THE PALACE HOTEL, IRA J. FOSTER, PROPRIETOR.



MR. AND MRS. J. A. MURPHEY.



MURPHEY'S VARIETY STORE.

of a house. His next move was into the Kenyon Block (now J. S. Sherwood's store). On April 1, 1895, he bought and moved into the building where he is now located, which he purchased of the T. W. Johnson estate. Here he has expended considerable money for improvements, including putting in steam heat and an acetelyne gas plant for lighting, and has room for a big stock of goods. His lines include variety goods and notions, glassware, house furnishings, crockery, dry goods, groceries, stationery, school supplies and ladies furnishings.

Mr. Murphey was born in Victory, Cayuga Co., N. Y., October 23, 1854, and was educated in Red Creek seminary. With that experience in trade which was possible as a traveling salesman, he began business at Sterling, N. Y., after three years on the road and came from there to Wolcott in 1884. On December 26, 1878, he married Marion Timerson at Martville, Cayuga Co., N. Y. Mr. Murphey is active in several fraternal societies in Wolcott. He has served as senior and junior warden and junior deacon in

resort for several years, and as a landing for smugglers before the period of railroads it possesses historic interest. Before the present proprietor, it was the home and property of Col. Anson Wood. Mr. Eugene Russell bought it and has conducted it as a resort four summers.

Its comforts indoors are those of home for Mrs. Russell presides in person over that part of Russell Island. The table she sets does justice to the highest skill in cooking, and her welcome of guests is cheerful and inviting.

Rowing, croquet, swinging, swimming and driving are pastimes here in midsummer. Open seasons for pickerel and black bass bring liberal rewards for fishermen; and good perch fishing is to be had at any time of open water.

A bold shore line affords easy and safe sailing in the lake—eastward to Fair Haven or westward to Great Sodus Bay, each seven miles from Russell's Island.

The shooting season is of prime interest to numerous hunters who come to this place for sport of that sort. Mallards and Black ducks



Smith, Photo.

RUSSELL'S ISLAND, PORT BAY, LOOKING OVER THE GROUNDS FROM THE BAY LANDING.

the Masonic order and has passed all of the chairs in the Odd Fellows.

**Russell's Island** lays in the north-west angle of Port Bay outlet into Lake Ontario, on high, rolling ground. The buildings, twenty rods from the shore of both lake and bay, are sheltered from the winds that come in from the lake by rising ground from which the eye can sweep miles of water and farm lands. The place, though an island in fact, is accessible over carriage roads, and contains 260 acres, furnishing to guests of the house fresh farm, garden and dairy productions. The driving distance to Wolcott—the postoffice and railroad station—is three miles. The Bay off Russell's landing place is two miles wide—protected from the winds and currents of the lake by a bar nearly enclosing it—and penetrates inland nearly three miles like a long, broad river, sweeping in open curves through famous duck shooting marshes and between headlands, grassy slopes, timbered bluffs and reaches of cultivated lands opening to view a mile or more from shore.

Russell's Island has been a favorite summer

are shot on the marshes at the head of the bay, while Butterballs, Canvass Back and Redheads swarm the open waters at the outlet.

Spring water on the island is sweet, cool and abundant. Mr. Russell takes personal interest in looking after his guests, and they appreciate his attentions. Those who notify him of their coming before hand he will meet at the trains at Wolcott with conveyance. Correspondence [addressed Eugene Russell, Port Bay, via Wolcott, N. Y.] will be promptly attended to.

**Smugglers** at Port Bay; Shooting of a Canadian and Like Casualty to Wayne County Man; Casks of Spirits Carried Back Country and Bartered to Buyers in Hay Barns:—

The coves and bluffs outside and inside of the bar closing Port Bay are "historic spots." The shooting of Old Delbrook, a Canadian adventurer, early in the last century, occurred inside of the bay where the west shore line curves



toward the outlet, a few rods north from Russell's boat landing.

The revenue officers coming up from the lake on the opposite side of the summit fired into the darkness below.

Delbrook's party got into the willows opposite Beaver Head to which they crossed the following night with the wounded man and before morning had him safe in an outhouse in the eastern outskirts of Wolcott village. But the man died.

#### BODY FOUND IN BUSHES.

A well known farmer of Wolcott lost his life in about the same manner, except that he was left in the bushes before the boats had crossed to Beaver Head, where his body was afterwards found and buried.

#### SMUGGLERS' ROADS FOR ESCAPE.

Along the east side of Russell Island was a heavy fringe of willows, a covered way for escaping boats.

The bar covered with brush afforded another passage between the two shores of the bay where

and sires of Wayne and Cayuga counties of a century ago, got wind of the hour set for landing a cargo—always at night; and towards morning they would appear—after the schooner had tripped anchor. The casks in the meantime had been quickly stowed in the dark recesses of the shore. And by approaching twilight they might be seen borne away in several directions on the shoulders of lusty fellows who, one by one, were stealing home with their booty. Many an innocent looking hay barn was the "trade room" for bartering concealed spirits several miles away from the lake.

Every expedient that could be devised to insure secrecy was adopted. Many expedients were necessary to get "the goods" ashore. Immense profits were awaiting those who got the casks and contents safely into a hiding place at home, and so they took bold and desperate chances.

Port Bay and East Bay were made for rendezvous as circumstances dictated. But many of the best families were engaged in carrying off smuggled goods, and so for thirty and forty years beginning the last century smuggling at these



Smith, Photo.

Russell Island.

Outlet.

Bar.

Deseborough Park.

PORT BAY, LOOKING OVER BAY AND LAKE, NORTH FROM EAST ROAD ON THE HILL.

good sprinters in the darkness of night could escape pursuit.

Revenue officers never ran very hard or very far on such occasions, for escaping smugglers [very common-place and innocent looking farmers in the daytime] were dangerous when cornered on such missions.

The officers had their salary to earn; the farmer ran for his life—liberty and property. Under such circumstances no one can doubt which party was the winner in those midnight skirmishes and pursuits.

#### LANDING PLACES FOR WHISKEY.

Paths from all directions crossing the country miles back of the bay converged at Beaver Head and on the shores opposite on each side of the bay.

C. W. Smith's summer cottage occupies the place on the east shore of the bay where contraband whiskey was landed and transferred to some one's shoulders. Traces of the landing over on the west side are now faintly seen in a clump of bushes and trees. Willows cover the Beaver Head landing.

#### CASKS CARRIED ON MEN'S SHOULDERS.

Through some sort of free-masonry the sons

points was a part of the honest yeoman's duties; and all classes either had a hand or winked at it.

**Destructive Fires.**—In 1871, the night of April 13th, a fire broke out in the building on the present site of Paddock's hardware store and swept pretty much the entire north side of Main street. Some of the business men were buying goods in New York and were wired to come home.

In 1874 a large amount of property was destroyed by fire.

On July 20, 1875, eight business blocks, from the Wolcott house to the Arcade block, were burned. The loss was about \$12,000.

On August 28, 1876, six business places on the east side of Mill street were burned.

On November 11, 1879, that old landmark, "the Arcade," was burned. It was owned by the Presbyterian church and was leased for stores.

On February 10, 1884, eight business blocks, including the Empire Block, were burned dispossessing twenty-three business concerns and fourteen families. The loss was about \$150,000.

On February 19, 1887, the Campbell block was burned.



Smith, Photo.

CARLTON HOUSE, L. H. TAGUE, PROPRIETOR.

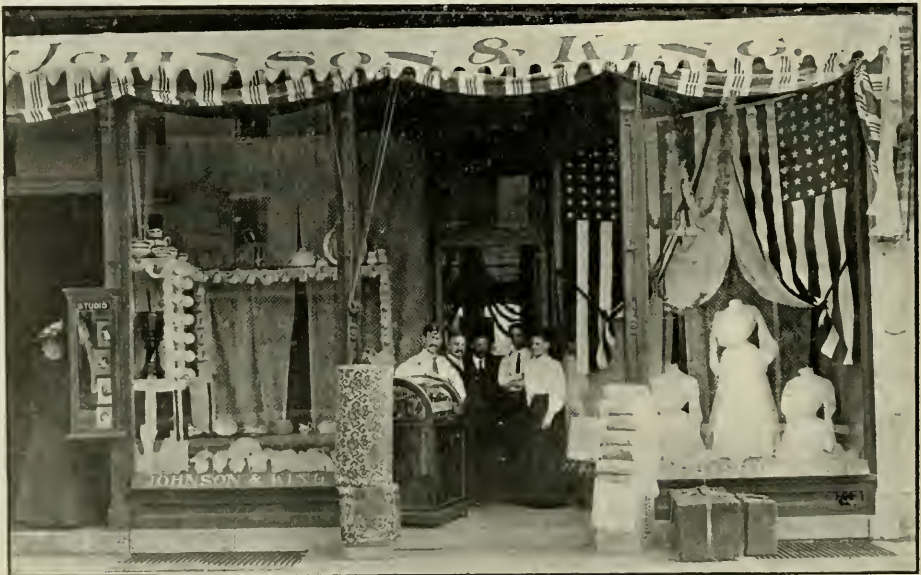
**The Carlton House** situated near the railroad station was purchased by L. H. Tague, the present proprietor, March 1, 1905. Mr. Tague took the house, determined to make it first class in every respect. He has spent considerable money in improvements inside and out and this house is becoming a favorite stopping place for commercial men.

**Johnson & King** as a business firm was organized February 1, 1903, succeeding the firm of F. S. Johnson & Co., which consisted of F. S. Johnson, C. E. Johnson and F. W. King, the two latter having previously clerked for Mr. Johnson. The business consists of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, carpets and wall paper.

**Wolcott Christening**—The earliest name given to this village was Melvin's Mills. This was in 1809 when Jonathan Melvin erected the saw and grist mills. He was led hither by the splendid water power afforded by the falls near the village and there the settlement was begun.

Some years later when Obadiah Adams had opened hotel and store and was making large shipments of meal, he erected large casks or puncheons for storage. It is said that at one time he had a thousand of the casks along Main street. This gave to the place the name Punch-eonville.

The village was later named after Governor Wolcott of Connecticut.



Smith, Photo.

JOHNSON & KING'S GENERAL STORE.





Smith, Photo.

BENJAMIN & CLAPPER, CEMENT BLOCK WORKS.

**Benjamin & Clapper**, manufacturers of cement block, started the business in the spring of 1905. They have placed several large orders of block and are making them in considerable numbers. These cement blocks are taking the place of brick, stone and wood in all sorts of building. The older the blocks get the stronger they are. In moulding the blocks the best machine is used—the Hercules; and the face of the block is made to represent grey or brown stone or a smooth front. This firm is the only manufacturer of these blocks in this section of the state. This firm also deals in cement at wholesale and retail.

**Bevier & Armstrong**.—This business was established on October 29, 1892, by Fred Bevier in the Tyrell Block, but soon outgrew its quarters and when the Johnson & Northup block was

built Mr. Bevier had one of the stores fitted especially for his undertaking and furniture business which he conducted successfully until March 12, 1901, when Clarence J. Armstrong bought a half interest in the business of which the firm name is now Bevier & Armstrong and ranks among Wolcott's best firms, doing a general furniture business, upholstering and picture framing. They are general agents for school seats and church furniture. "Their undertaking business always has their special attention, with lady assistant, and first class rolling stock makes them among the county's best."

**Cleared Land** in the Village—John Grandy, who came in 1808, was employed by Obadiah Adams and he cleared thirty acres now in the south part of the village and occupied by village streets and homes.



Smith, Photo.

BEVIER & ARMSTRONG, UNDERTAKERS AND FURNITURE DEALERS.



Smith, Photo.

KEESLER POST, NO. 55, G. A. R. (GROUP NO. 2).

See Sk, of Post P. 52.

Lower Row (left to right):—J. G. Strait, B. J. Worden, James Boyd, Capt. James H. Hyde, G. B. Curtis, E. W. Newberry, Judson H. Dowd, Samuel Bancroft, Wm. Snyder, Isaac Vanderpool. Upper Row: Irving McIntyre, Wm. Merrill, D. C. Green, A. H. Seavey, — Fowler, Nathaniel Fields, Cyrus Fitch, Irving Scott, Jas. A. Merrill, Geo. Johnson, Albert Wamsley.

**Benjamin T. Moore** began business in Wolcott in 1896, succeeding to the pharmacy and grocery which his father, A. W. Moore, had conducted as sole proprietor since 1882, and in connection with a partner since 1872. Mr. B. T. Moore was a clerk for his father some years before buying the business. His lines of trade are groceries and drugs complete.

**The Fire Department**—In April, 1884, the village voted to raise by tax \$2,500 for the purchase of a fire engine and a suitable equipment, and in the fall of 1885 the present frame engine house and village hall building was erected.

Henry A. Graves was president of the village at the time the organization of the department was effected and he was made the first chief of the department, holding that position several years.

Prior to that the village had a hand fire engine with a brigade organized to serve it. Then a Hook and Ladder company was organized which was finally split up into two companies. The hand engines—at one time there were two of them in use in the village—were kept under the shed of the Presbyterian church on lower Main street. Great difficulty was occasioned in getting water until the new department was created when the village constructed reservoirs.

When a fire broke out men and women

assisted in carrying water in buckets with which to keep the tanks in the hand engines filled.

There are now three splendidly organized and drilled companies, the Hook & Ladder Company [see group portrait on page 28], the Hose Company [see page 39] and the Steamer Company.

**Melvin Estate;** What became of It—Joel Fanning making a search of the old cemetery title found as follows:—Sir John Lawton Johnson of Webster Hall, County of Durfrus, England, transferred lot 50, Williamson's patent, 848½ acres to Jonathan Melvin, September 3, 1811. Then when Melvin became involved Thomas Armstrong, sheriff, transferred 600 acres to the Utica Bank, December 21, 1830. The Utica Bank transferred the property to David Arne December 24, 1833.



Smith Photo.

B. T. MOORE'S PHARMACY AND GROCERY.



[The School—Continued from Page 74.]

THE FACULTY.

Academic Department: R. B. Gurley, Principal: mathematics, civics, American history.

Agnes Ford, Preceptress: English, Latin and German.

Sue G. Crafts, teacher Training Class, Greek, General History.

Carrie H. Bliss, Drawing and Science.

Preparatory Academic: Nellie W. Moses, Preliminary Subjects, Physiology and Physical Geography.

Grammar Department: Carolyn D. Exner, Miss Belle Palmer.

Intermediate Department: Nellie Fosmire, Mrs. Mabel Phillips.

Primary Department: Mabel Lytle, Grace B. Timerson.

Music: L. Pearl Hayner.

**Early Highways;** Opening of the Roads Between Wolcott, the Lake and the East:—

The first highway laid out in the town of Wolcott was what was called the old Galen road, which was cut through from the old salt works in Savannah to Sodus Bay. The bay terminus was at Capt. Helm's place then called the "floating bridge," now Glasgow. The road was opened by the Galen Salt Company to get its productions to the bay where they could be loaded on schooners.

In 1804 Grover Smith, John Swift and John Ellis were named commissioners to lay out a military road four rods wide from Salina to the north-west corner of the old military town of Galen, thence on through Palmyra and Northfield to the mouth of the Genesee river.

The New Hartford road leading south from Wolcott was opened by Noah Starr, Jacob Shook



Smith Photo

WOLCOTT HIVE, NO. 318, L. O. T. M.

Lower Row (left to right):—Matie Kitchen, Mrs. Marion Murphey, Mrs. Ethel Sabin, Mrs. Mabel Metcalf, Mrs. Estelle Sabin. Upper Row: Mrs. Lodema Abbott, Mrs. Emma Wells, Mrs. Myrta Green, Mrs. Carrie Doolittle, Mrs. Flora Tague, Mrs. Jennie Olmstead

**Leavenworth Institute;** First Anniversary, [See View Old Building Page 31]:—Those who participated in the exercises, July 6, 1860, were D. Chichester, the orator of the occasion; E. Reynolds, salutatorian; M. Darling, Miss C. Chatterson, G. C. Cosad, Miss G. Chipman, Miss S. Reynolds, S. Colvin, F. Webb, Miss M. Leavenworth, H. Arne, Miss C. Briggs, Miss W. Talcott, B. Van Auken, J. Burr, Miss H. Stark, W. Westfall, Miss A. Stark, Miss C. Norton, E. Dickson, J. Merrill, Miss A. Van Auken, B. Arms, F. S. Johnson, J. Roe, Miss J. Pepper; W. H. Valentine, valedictorian.

**Wolcott Lady Honored**—The Ladies of the G. A. R., Wolcott Circle, were highly honored at the Department Convention, State of New York, held at Syracuse June 22, when Mrs. J. E. Lawrence was elected president of the Department, which she will represent at the National Convention which is to be held at Denver, Sept. 1st, this year.

and Peres Bardwell, the first highway commissioners. The survey was completed Nov. 2, 1810, and was made by Osgood Church.

The road from Rose Valley to Clyde was surveyed March 10, 1811. This was maintained several years for a plank road which was discontinued in 1877.

Two roads between Wolcott and Clyde were surveyed May 10, 1810. They were that on the east side of Mill creek south from Rumsay mill and the road via of Stuard's Corners. These were to clear the way to the county (Seneca) seat at Waterloo.

The road from Sloop Landing to Melvin's Mills (Wolcott) was surveyed June 8, 1810.

A road was surveyed through to Port Bay June 29, 1810.

The Galen road to Cato was surveyed May 23, 1810, and to Sodus Bay June 28, 1810. These were the direct roads from the Bay to Auburn.

**Olivit Bros. & Cunningham**—The firm of Olivit Brothers consists of three members, George W. Olivit, who was born in Dutchess County, New York in 1841; Ambrose Olivit also born in Dutchess County in 1849; and James P. Cowper born in Isle of Wight County, Virginia.

This firm has been in business in N. Y. City for forty years, so is one of the oldest original Houses now doing business in that city, and is well known all over the United States, Canada, Bermuda Islands, also the West Indies, and has the esteem and confidence of every one with whom it does business.

Olivit Brothers have been buying fruit in Wolcott, N. Y. for 25 years, and their business in that vicinity has been managed for the past eleven years by W. C. Cunningham; and is at present under the name of Olivit Bros. & Cunningham.

The store house shown in the view was erected in 1901, and is supplied and equipped with every

Jedediah Wilder.—A successful and prominent man in Wolcott; Died Aug. 8, 1867, aged 75 years. He was father of Mrs. Elisha Leavenworth and Mrs. C. P. Smith, and other children not so well identified with the history of Wolcott.

Dr. James Wilson.—Born May 16, 1807; Died Aug. 17, 1881. He was for a long period the leading physician in Eastern Wayne and very prominent in politics. He served as member of the Legislature.

Dr. E. H. Draper.—Born Jan. 7, 1830; Died July 15, 1900. He studied medicine with Dr. Wilson and was for years associated with him; became a leader in his profession, and the acknowledged leader of the Democratic party in his town. He served for many years as Supervisor of the town of Wolcott, was very active in business, and at his death, having no children, he left a large bequest to both the Baptist and Presbyterian churches.



OLIVIT BROS. & CUNNINGHAM'S STORE HOUSE.

improvement. Near the building is a cooper shop where the firm have barrels made for their business.

Olivit Brothers have paid out in the Wolcott business as high as \$75,000.00 in one season. They handle apples (green fruit) and onions.

#### "Captains" of Wolcott in Early Days

[See Frontispiece.]

Isaac Leavenworth.—Born June 17, 1781; Died Feb. 29, 1860. He was for many years the most prominent and influential business man in Wolcott. He was associated with Mr. Hendrick, and his son Elisha Leavenworth, in the Blast Furnace. Mr. Leavenworth was very liberal in his gifts to and in support of the Presbyterian church and the Leavenworth Institute. The grounds of the present school buildings were given by him. His grandchildren, Mrs. Benjamin Wilson, Mrs. James Westfall and F. A. Leavenworth now reside in Rochester, N. Y.

Chauncy P. Smith.—Born 1826; Died 1900. He was for many years up to 1883, the leading and most enterprising merchant in Wolcott. He built two brick stores—the first erected of brick in the village. For something over twenty years he was superintendent of the Sunday school and an elder of the Presbyterian church. His moving to the west in 1883 was a great loss to Wolcott. He died in Duluth, Minn.

Jonathan Melvin.—Very little is known of him outside of his operations in Wolcott. An account is given on page 4 and a pen-sketch on page 63.

Dr. David Arne.—A sketch of him will be found on page 5 under caption "Black House Farm," and on page 64 under caption, "Post Rider."

Rev. Thomas Wright.—A distinguished clergyman in the Presbyterian church for 16 years; now living at Detroit, 86 years old. He preached the last sermon in the old Presbyterian church on lower Main street. He was a native of Vermont.



**W. C. T. U.**—In the summer of 1877 "Dr." Bacon, the blue-ribbon temperance reformer, hired Graves' Hall and began a temperance crusade. The pastors of the village were in the audience and listened to a strong tirade against ministers of the gospel and their sympathy with the liquor evil. After the meeting closed Rev. W. L. Page of the Presbyterian church went on to the platform, shook hands with the "Dr." and said: "I am not afraid of you or any man living." Thereafter Dr. Bacon called Mr. Page "Peter Cartwright." In the weeks that followed all the pastors worked in harmony with Dr. Bacon who, with all his eccentricities and roughness, did a mighty work for righteousness the results of which are felt to this day in a healthy temperance sentiment in Wolcott village.

Out of this movement there was organized by Rev. W. L. Page and Rev. B. W. Hamilton a Woman's Christian Temperance Union, with Mrs. O. P. Meeks, wife of the Baptist pastor, as president. She left town within a year and Mrs. F. S. Johnson filled out the term of office and was re-elected twice. Mrs. W. H. Thomas served as president eight years, Miss Lida V. Kellogg four years, Mrs. E. H. Reed six years, and Miss Mary A. Talcott has now served seven years.

There are at present about thirty-five members, with eleven departments of work: Evangelistic, Mother's Meetings, Parlor Meetings, Press Work, Literature, Non-alcoholic Medication, Anti-Narcotics, Flower Mission, Sunday School, Sabbath Observance, Parliamentary Usage. They contribute annually \$2 to the Frances Willard Memorial Fund, spend many dollars in literature at home, and in various meetings seek to educate public sentiment toward the utter extermination of the legalized liquor traffic, for temperance in all things helpful and abstinence from all things harmful.

**Cayuga Indians** at Wolcott.—Prior to 1789 the lands about Wolcott were the property of the Cayuga Indians and these were no doubt the Indians of our local traditions. No permanent camps seem to have been located hereabouts but there were frequent hunting expeditions down Wolcott Creek to Port Bay, and there is a tradition that each year in the autumn a tribe visited Port Bay hunting and herb gathering.

Evidences of their camps have been found on the farms of Edward Waldruff, Samuel Jones and Hezekiah Easton on the east side of the Bay and from these farms numerous arrow heads, fleshers, spear heads and relics have been gathered. By the treaty of Albany February 25, 1789, the Cayugas ceded their rights in the lands of this section to the State of New York and except for an occasional visit the aboriginal history of Wolcott came to an end.

**Settlers** from New Hartford.—Jesse Mathews came to Wolcott in 1810, was elected supervisor in 1817 and held the office of justice of the peace several years. Others who came with him from New Hartford, Ct., were Abijah Moore, William P. Newell, Roswell Fox and Roger Olmstead. They settled on farms in the south environs of Wolcott village. Roger Olmstead conducted a distillery east of the New Hartford road as it was called.

**Earliest Presbyterian Preachers.**—Rev. Daniel S. Butterick was preaching at Geneseo among the Indians in 1813 when he was sent to the Sodus Circuit. He was afterwards missionary among the Cherokees.

Rev. William Clark came as a missionary to the churches at Huron and Wolcott. He died at Ira, N. Y.

Rev. Nathaniel Merrill came from New Hampshire (Lyndeborough). He died at Georgetown, Mass., in 1839.

Rev. Darwin Chichester died at Hammondsport in 1875.

**Clyde and Sodus Bay Railroad.**—The organization of this railroad company was effected at a meeting of the citizens of Galen, Rose and Huron, held at the Clyde Hotel January 22, 1853, at which the following officers were elected: President, Leander S. Ketcham; Vice-President, John F. Curtis of Huron; Treasurer, Eron N. Thomas of Rose; Secretary, Joseph A. Pain of Clyde; Directors, Wm. H. Lyon and Wm. M. Lummis of New York, John F. Curtis, James T. Wisner and James Wride of Huron, Henry Graham, Chauncey B. Collins and Eron N. Thomas of Rose, Isaac Miller, Aaron Griswold, Leander S. Ketcham, Charles D. Lawton and Joseph Watson of Clyde. The length of the route surveyed, from Clyde to Sodus Bay, was ten miles, and the estimated cost of construction was less than \$150,000. It was intended to form one of three links in a railroad system to be constructed between Ithaca and Toronto. In July it was announced that \$110,000 in stock was guaranteed, but the road was never built.

**State Road, the Earliest Route of Travel** into Western New York.—On March 24, 1794, three commissioners were appointed to lay out a road from Utica to Cayuga Ferry on Cayuga Lake, thence on to Canandaigua. The road was 100 feet wide. The Legislature appropriated \$3,000 for the road through the military tract and \$7,500 to defray the expense of the construction of the rest of it.

#### CAYUGA BRIDGE.

Stages began running as far west as Cayuga Ferry September 3, 1797. Work on the construction of a bridge at that point began in May, 1799, and was completed so that it was first used in the fall of 1800. The length of the bridge was a mile and an eighth and the width was sufficient for three wagons abreast. The cost of the structure was \$150,000. Stages were then run through to Canandaigua.

**Sodus Bay Canal.**—In 1827 a charter was obtained for the construction of a canal connecting the Erie canal near Montezuma with Great Sodus Bay. Surveys were made but no work was done. In 1836 a new charter was obtained by John Greig of Canandaigua and in 1841 another was secured by Gen. W. H. Adams. The route named in the last charter was from Sodus Bay to the Clyde river a little west of Clyde, to be continued from that point to Cayuga lake. Gen. Adams with remarkable perseverance followed up this enterprise until the time of his death, getting the charter renewed after it had once expired. Many people believe that had he lived he would have succeeded in his purpose.

**Representatives** in Congress from Wayne County—Blackmar, Ebson, (vice Holly, deceased), 1849 (beginning in March); Butterfield, Martin, 1859-'61; Cowles, George W., 1869-'71; Camp, John H., 1877-'83; Green, Byram, 1843-'4; Holly, John M., 1847-'8, (died at Jacksonville, Fla., March 8, 1848); Strong, Theron R., 1839-'40.

**Great Waterfalls**—Krimbs Falls, upper Prinzgan river, 1,148 feet high; Verme Foss, Scandanavia 984 feet; Vettis Foss, Scandanavia, 853 feet; Rjukan Foss, Scandanavia, 814 feet; Velmo Falls, 591 feet; Tessa Falls, 541 feet; Gastein Falls, 469 feet; Skjagggeda Falls, 424 feet; Victoria Falls, Zambezi river, 391 feet; Niagara Falls, 177 feet.

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